

AROUND THE FARM

By W. G. Nibler
County Extension Agent

The bull grading demonstration last week at the Sherman Stock Farm, Scappoose, was a good way to learn about the points to consider in picking a good beef bull.

Thirty-five farmers from all over the county were on hand to watch Harry Lindgren, livestock specialist, grade twelve bulls in the Sherman Hereford herd. Everyone was provided with score cards and as each animal was brought out everyone had a chance to put down his scoring of the animal and then compare it with Lindgren's.

Of the twelve bulls we graded in Sherman's herd, seven graded No. 2 and five graded No. 3. They were a very nice group of bulls.

The grade of No. 1 means a bull of exceptional quality such as would be a winner at a good livestock show. A No. 2 bull is one that could be used to improve the quality of breeding herds, while No. 3 bull is a good range bull quality.

Some of the spring pasture seedlings have been badly hurt by dry weather. In many cases it is too early to say definitely whether or not enough of the young seedlings have been killed to justify reseeding the pasture.

Grass seedlings can look very dry and still revive if moisture comes early enough in the fall, so hasty judgement is often a mistake.

On the other hand if the stand is seriously reduced it might be well to dry plow the land this summer to kill out quackgrass, Canada blue grass, and the weed grasses. If the soil is well packed a fall seeding could easily pass up a poorly started spring seeding.

Farmers spraying patches of weeds with a hand air pressure sprayer will be interested in getting a nozzle that will put on a broad flat spray, according to Aldon Ashley, Mist. When these hand sprayers are purchased they are generally always equipped with nozzles that give a fine cone shaped spray that is good for spraying gardens or flowers but very slow when spraying weeds.

Ashley purchased such a sprayer this spring and found that treating Canada thistle patches with 2,4-D was slow work.

I put on a small plot of 2,4,5-T on evergreen blackberries at Ashley's place and used my hand sprayer with one of the nozzles that produce a flat broad spray. Ashley figured that such a nozzle would speed up weed spraying four or five times as fast as with the fine cone shaped spray.

A water weed in the ditches of the Webb drainage was called to my attention by Tom Colvin, Clatskanie. Identification of this weed indicates that it is parrot feather. Many farmers in the Clatskanie district may be familiar with parrot feather as the water weed that has caused considerable difficulty on Puget Island.

We have found some of the same weed on the Midland drainage district. Roger Johanson, Clatskanie, and I applied some trials of 2,4-D on this parrot feather on the Ed Mackey farm. 2,4-D has given good results on parrot feather on trials in Clatsop county.

Main damage caused by this weed is blocking of ditches until little or no water will run through. If small patches of dense growing water weeds are found in drainage ditches it might be well to investigate since it is much easier controlled before it becomes too firmly established.

With the 4-H Clubs

Tillamook Tour Planned

4-H club members from Columbia county will have a chance to see some outstanding dairies in Tillamook county on the North Coast livestock and crops tour to be held in that county on August 4-5, according to word received from Cal Monroe, state agent at Corvallis.

Other counties taking part in this tour are Clatsop, Washington, and Tillamook. Club members will see livestock, pastures, and the buildings on a number of dairies. A tour of a cheese factory is being planned.

Also included in the schedule is a sheep fitting demonstration, dairy judging, and some practice in crops judging.

All 4-H club members planning to attend are requested to make application with Harold Black, extension agent in 4-H club work, as soon as possible.

Stores to Back Project

Safeway Stores, Incorporated, will again sponsor the 4-H Livestock Breeding project contest in Columbia county in 1949, according to A. E. Owens, manager of the Safeway store, St. Helens.

The purpose of this contest is to develop 4-H livestock breeding projects and to encourage club members to continue their 4-H work and improve and enlarge their herds and flocks.

Awards consist of a scholarship to 4-H summer school at Corvallis for the county winner and a \$100 college scholarship to the state winner.

Any 4-H club member carrying a livestock project is eligible to enter. Each contestant shall submit livestock and crop record books to the county extension agent in 4-H club work by November 15.

Selection of them shall be based on the club member's over-all club work, management of his project, record book, and clubmanship.

This contest was won in 1948 by Charles Schwab, Deer Island, with his dairy breeding project.

Census Child Allocation Again Set at \$10 Each

County Assessor James Anliker has received notification that a state county allocation of \$10 per census child through surplus funds from taxes would be available for the 1949-50 fiscal year.

The notification was received from Carl Chambers, chairman of the state tax commissions' income tax division.

Last year Columbia county derived \$62,590 from this fund and the allocation for 1949-50 will be \$65,500.

Moran Places in Judging Contest

A large turnout of 125 persons attended the Jersey Picnic at the C. W. Sherman farm, Saturday, July 16.

4-H club and FFA members from all over Columbia county were guests of the Columbia Jersey club.

B. L. Jacobs, herdsman at the Oregon State college dairy, Corvallis, acted as the judge in the judging contest. Jacobs also gave instruction in showmanship.

A clipping demonstration was given by Ronnie Hines, herdsman at the Sherman farm.

Music was provided during the picnic lunch at noon by Maybelle Scripture, St. Helens, who played a number of accordion selections.

Winners of the judging contest were: FFA Division: first, Loren DeShazer, Warren; second, Laurence Watt, Deer Island. Senior 4-H Division: first Joe DeShazer, Warren; second, Lloyd Hinkhouse, Scappoose.

Junior 4-H Division: first, David Smith, Goble; second, Jerol Moran, Vernonia. First place in this division resulted in a tie between Smith, Moran, and Gene Jones, Clatskanie. The winners were decided by an additional class of cows.

Prizes of a show halter for first place and a brush and curry comb for second place were awarded in each division. These prizes were donated by Heinie's Feed Store, Simpson's Hardware store, and Mid-Columbia Co-op, all of St. Helens.

Ice cream was furnished by the Jewel Ice cream company. Candy was provided for the 4-H club and FFA members by Click's Market, Bill Phillip's Grocery, Adam's Grocery, Davis Drug store, and Tomison's Food Market, all of St. Helens.

Relatives Entertained At Wirtz Home Wed.

RIVERVIEW — Mr. and Mrs. Otto Fresanke of New England, North Dakota, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. E. Stover of Vancouver, Washington and Mr. and Mrs. Joe Korang of Portland were dinner guests at the J. A. Wirtz home Wednesday. Mrs. Stover is a sister of Mr. Wirtz's and Mrs. Fresanke and Mrs. Korang are her daughters.

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Grass Killing Need Explained

This is an excellent year to kill out quackgrass, blue grass, Canary grass, bent grass, tuber oat grass, and other creeping weedy grasses, according to W.G. Nibler, county extension agent.

One of the main requirements for getting a good kill of these weed grasses is very dry soil. If the grass is plowed or worked loose in dry soil the roots will die before they can become re-established.

Many farmers have reported that quackgrass patches have already been killed out by a control program this year.

Hay and grain fields infested with these weed grasses should be plowed as soon as the crops are harvested. A rough job of plowing which will leave the furrow slice up on edge is the most effective. To do this some farmers use the plow without the mole board. Others use a very short mole board that does not turn the furrow slice.

Plowed fields should be let lay for about two weeks to allow the soil to dry out thoroughly. If any growth of grass revives, the field can then be worked with a spring tooth harrow or cultivation to roll the sods on top of the soil to dry out.

Disking should be avoided. They chop up the grass roots and mulch the soil so that it does not dry out as readily. In this work, the drier the soil the better.

In deciphering secret messages, the assumption of probable clew words is often necessary.

CORRECTION

Requested is the correction of a word appearing in last week's article submitted by G. F. Brown concerning the dog shooting episode. The sentence "Or did they fall for the distorted harangue of a hound lawyer," should have read "loud lawyer."



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