

AROUND THE FARM BY DON COIN WALROD
County Extension Agent

Keeping cows in dry-lot and using machinery to harvest forage instead of allowing the cows to do it is a practice that has been gaining some favor in certain areas. A couple of reasons for this line of thinking are that about 20 per cent more forage is harvested from any given acreage and the danger from bloat is minimized.

Even so E. R. Jackman, farm crops specialist, does not feel that the method of harvesting has sufficient merit for most operators. Cost of equipment, cash operating costs, additional labor, and the possibility of breakdown of equipment at the time it is needed are some of the disadvantages of the system.

Dividing pastures into small grazing areas or paddocks seems to be a better approach to the problem of pasture utilization. Easily moved electric fences are used to control cattle. Grazing areas are small enough that they can be grazed off in a matter of a few days before being moved to the next paddock.

The tendency over the state has been to continually decrease the size of these grazing areas. Thus a large number of cattle might graze off an area in a little as one day.

Advantages of this system of grazing include the fact that forage is taken off evenly and rapidly, there is little wastage from trampling, bloat is less apt to occur, there is no need for pasture clipping if the paddocks are small enough and the plots have sufficient time—usually 14 to 21 days—in which to recover before being pastured again. Such a system works best where irrigation is

available and can follow the cattle after each area is grazed, but it is adaptable to non-irrigated land.

Bloat of cattle is always a very serious thing, but it is often more serious late in the summer and fall season than earlier in the year. Recently we have heard of numerous cases of bloat and just happened to be on the Hunt-Hammon Ranch on Sauvie's Island when a bloated cow was found.

While the exact cause of bloat is not known, it is common knowledge that cattle do not bloat if the pasture has less than fifty per cent or even down to forty per cent clover. Keeping this balance is somewhat difficult, especially late in the pasture season. Generally grasses grow lush and abundantly in the cooler spring and early summer months, and during that same period the clovers do not grow quite so vigorously. Later in the summer and fall months when the weather is apt to be warmer, the clover grows lush while the grass tends to lag behind somewhat. This often results in more clover than grass, and bloat results.

When moisture is available, extra nitrogen applied in late summer helps to boost along, overcoming its natural tendency to become somewhat dormant.

AROUND HOME...

Its good to be back in Oregon again after a year's work with the extension service in Virginia according to Helen Sellie, new home agent.

The Virginia extension service is somewhat different from ours, but fundamentally the interest of the homemakers is the same—that of a better and happier home for the family.

The use of servants from the negro group meant that in the country in which I worked, the women were not very concerned about short cuts and labor-saving methods of doing housework, as is true of our Western homemakers. Their interest tended more towards ways of using their leisure time such as learning new crafts.

I feel that Columbia county extension groups have chosen a splendid program for the coming year and one which should meet the needs of the majority of the people.

Saving money, time and energy will be stressed with an emphasis on clothing. On October and November projects will be gifts from cloth and becoming a better buyer.

Becoming a better buyer will include a general discussion of buying general items and suggest how to use advertisements and consumers magazines, when to buy, when is a bargain a bargain, store services, mail order buying and buying for cash, credit or installment buying.

Gifts from cloth should also serve as a means of supplementing the income. This will be an all-day "work meeting" at which time soft toys for children, and aprons and bibs will be made. Of special interest, should be the Christmas stocking which has been so popular the last few years.

These project leaders shall give this information to their groups at either October or November meetings and I shall give the meeting on becoming a better buyer.

The month of March will find our Columbia county homemakers busy with better dress clothing workshops.



LUNCHBOX PROBLEMS?

Packing a lunchbox every day can become quite a problem. Shopping at the Mill Market and Lockers will keep lunchbox contents varied and tasty, as our shelves contain a large variety of foods which will make lunch packing easy—breads, pastries, lunch meats, spreads, fruits and vegetables—to make a balanced meal.

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Mist-Nehalem Unit Schedules Meeting

The first meeting of the Mist-Nehalem home extension unit will be held at Mrs. Norman Hanson's home on Friday, September 25. This meeting is to get acquainted all over again; welcoming new and old members alike. The session will start at 1:00 p.m. Plans for the coming year will be discussed and also meeting places and committee chairmen and leaders. Everyone is welcome.

Although our extension meetings are open without charge to all interested homemakers, we are limiting these clothing workshops to those who are active unit members and those who have had the workshop on a cotton dress. If you are interested in making a better dress but haven't completed the cotton dress workshop, let us know.

John Campbell and I had an interesting call at a home near St. Helens the other day to give some assistance with house plans.

John is extension specialist in housing and is available to give advice to any of our homemakers who wish to build or remodel homes. Margaret Tuller, housing specialist, will also give assistance. Since both of them serve the entire state, it is a good idea to get your request in early.

Shellac is made from a resinous substance secreted by shell insects.

Light Changes Egg Production

September brings with its shorter days—less than 13 hours of daylight—and to the poultrymen that means lower egg production.

Most poultrymen are well aware that artificial lights will stimulate egg production and help avoid a fall molt, says Don Coin Walrod, county extension agent. Artificial lights are commonly used to provide up to 14 hours light, but no advantage is gained by providing much over the 13 hours.

One 100-watt light equipped with a reflector is recommended for every 400 square feet of floor space. The lights will need to be continued until about the middle of March, when there are about 13 daylight hours.

Artificial lighting does not seem to increase a flock's total egg production, says Walrod, but it does increase the fall and winter production at the expense of the production during the rest of the year. Since egg prices are normally highest during the fall months of the year, lighting helps the poultrymen get more of his year's egg supply at the season when markets are best.

FOR ATHLETES FOOT

Use T-4-L for 3 to 5 days. It actually peels off the outer skin, exposes buried fungi and KILLS ON CONTACT. If not pleased with instant-drying T-4-L, your 40c back at any drug store. Today at NANCE'S

County Council Meet Attended

RIVERVIEW — Mrs. Maude Wells attended the Columbia County Council of the P.-T.A. at Clatskanie Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. Hank Hudson spent Sunday afternoon in Portland helping his mother, Mrs. Opal Hudson, move.

Wellington Page of Woodstock, New Brunswick, Canada is visiting at the home of Mrs. Alice Mills. He is a cousin of the late Frank Mills.

Robert Olin of Seattle visited his parents, Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Olin, Thursday and Friday and Jack Olin of Portland spent the week end visiting there.

Recent week end visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Magoff were Mr. and Mrs. Mike Stolen of Oakridge.

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NEVER TOO BUSY TO PUT OUT A CAMPFIRE



Be an eager beaver when you go camping this year. Build your campfire in an open area, away from trees and brush. Keep an eye on it while it burns. When you leave, make sure every spark is out. These precautions may save thousands of acres of green forestland.



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