

AROUND THE FARM

By Don Coin Walrod



Of course, no two farms are exactly alike, but there is no question that management is one of the prime factors in determining farm income. The farm operator's job in management may include many factors, but one of the more important involves consideration of alternative production enterprises.

Each particular area may be best adapted to certain crops, but usually the operator has some choice among these. Markets and production conditions change constantly, to say nothing of the eventual change of farm operators. Making a decision to change production enterprises is a serious and sometimes costly undertaking.

Enterprise data sheets, giving costs of production and potential returns under specific conditions have been prepared by OSU Farm Management Specialists Manning Becker and Fred Smith, assisted by county agents and producers. While these can only serve as a guide, they can help a farm manager to determine what potential costs and returns might be.

This information is also helpful to an operator in determining whether his costs and returns are in line with other producers, and if not, may aid in pointing out why they are different.

The enterprise data sheets are not available for all agricultural commodities, but most of the common ones are included.

Anyone interested in this information may secure the sheets from county extension offices.

Wool incentive support for the 1966 crop has been set at 65 cents per pound of shorn wool, up three cents from 1965 and a number of prior years.

Under the wool incentive program, the ASCS office of the USDA pays producers who file wool marketing reports payments sufficient to bring the market returns up to a national average of 65 cents. Such payments are designed to encourage our national wool production since we are becoming more and more dependent upon imports.

Funds used to pay wool incentive payments are derived from duties paid on wool being imported into this country.

Because farming goes on all around us, often in small units, the tremendous impact agriculture has on our economic community often is beyond our full comprehension.

The significance can be better realized by comparing employment. Farming employs six million workers. That's more than the combined employment in transportation, public utilities, the steel industry, and the automobile industry. In addition, there are eight million people who work at storing, transporting, processing, and merchandising the products of agriculture.

Agriculture further gives employment to another six million people who supply farmers with the materials used in production and family living. Farmers spend nearly \$30 billion a year for goods and services to produce crops and livestock. And they spend another

\$12 billion a year for the same things that urban folks buy—food, clothing, drugs, furniture, appliances and services.

The United States is currently the world's largest exporter of agricultural products. To do this, three out of every ten jobs in private employment are related to agriculture.

As a means of protecting customers as well as themselves, the poultry industry is currently putting on a vigorous campaign to see that DDT and all other pesticides containing chlorinated hydrocarbons are not used on poultry farms.

At the present time, there are no tolerances provided for these pesticides in poultry products. The presence of these materials in poultry products could lead to condemnation of meat or eggs. If this occurs, the producer is the one that takes the loss as there are no funds to pay indemnity.

There are several pesticides that have been approved for the control of lice and mites. Three that have been approved and used extensively with poultry are malathion, Coral, and sevin. Korlan has also been used extensively for the control of flies, but it should not be used on birds.

Two farmers farm side by side. They put in the same number of hours in the field. One makes a third to a half again as much income as the other. What makes the difference? Management—and a willingness to keep up with innovations in technology, say researchers at the Texas Agricultural Experiment station.

Law Requires Aliens to Report

District Director Alfred J. Urbano of the Immigration and Naturalization Service recently stated that the annual alien address report program usually causes a sharp rise in the number of applications for naturalization.

The law requires all aliens in the United States, with a few exceptions, to report their addresses each January. Throughout the United States, almost thirty percent more applications for naturalization are received during the months of January, February and March than are received during the months of January, February and March in the Alien Address Report program.

Aliens not required to make this report are diplomats, those accredited to certain international organizations and those who have entered temporarily as agricultural laborers.

Forms for making the reports will be available to aliens at all post offices and offices of the Immigration and Naturalization Service during the month of January. Urbano indicated that aliens desiring information concerning naturalization or similar matters should obtain the forms at an office of the Immigration and Naturalization Service where personnel trained in these fields will be available to answer inquiries.

Why not use wallpaper instead of shelf paper when lining your closet shelves? You can cut edges with pink shears. Really quite attractive.

THE PUBLIC WELFARE ?

(Questions about public welfare which are of general interest can be sent to the Public Welfare Questions to answer in this column. Help with individual problems is available at your county welfare office.)

What is the purpose of public welfare?

Public welfare is a program established by law to provide for people who cannot take care of themselves without help. The major groups of people who depend upon welfare for money to live on and medical care are the aged, the disabled and children. Besides financial help, public welfare provides counseling for some individuals and families who have problems related to everyday living. Wherever possible, this counseling is directed toward rehabilitation and toward helping people care for themselves as far as their capacity permits.

How do you choose people to work for welfare?

Public welfare employees are hired through State Civil Service. They must pass a competitive examination, after which they are individually interviewed to determine whether they have qualities and interests they need in order to do an effective job for public welfare.

Does welfare take care of retarded people who belong in institutions?

Many retarded people are capable of living in their own home community if public welfare can provide for their support. This is usually less costly to the taxpayer and is a far more satisfactory arrangement from the point of view of the retarded person and his family.

Is it true all needy people, regardless of age, will get free medical care under the new federal law?

The new federal law leaves it up to each state to decide whether it will establish a program for the medically indigent and how soon. The medically indigent are defined as people who would qualify for one of the existing programs of public assistance, except that they have enough money to provide food, shelter and clothing for themselves. It is probable that most states will provide some form of medical care for these medically indigent persons by 1975.

My father receives old age assistance. Will public welfare pay for his vitamins and liniment, or does he have to take that out of his grant?

Non-prescription drug items are generally expected to be met out of an individual's personal incidental allowance, which is included in his welfare grant. Direct payment for drug items is limited to prescriptions.

Why can't people get credit instead of asking for welfare when they are out of work?

Many do. However, people who apply for public assistance are generally those who have already exhausted their credit resources, or whose earnings, when they are employed, are so limited that they would never be able to repay any debts they incur during periods of unemployment.

Isn't it true that most welfare recipients could get jobs if they really wanted to work?

No. Most welfare recipients who are physically able to work are people with so little education and so few marketable skills that no jobs are open to them. Many of them welcome the opportunity to work for their assistance grants through assignment to a public project, which suggests a willingness to work when work is available to them. Although we are in a period of relatively high employment, the available jobs in today's labor market demand a much higher degree of education and skill than at any time in the past. Those who lack these skills often have no means of support except public welfare.

My savings are down to \$200. How soon should I ask for old age assistance?

The maximum of cash a single person may retain and be eligible for old age assistance is \$250. A couple may retain \$500 and still be eligible for old age assistance. When your savings approach these levels, you may be eligible for old age assistance if your income is not sufficient to meet your needs at public welfare standards.

To loosen glue after a pasting job, rub spots with cheesecloth dampened with some alcohol.



We're announcing our best wishes for a bright and happy New Year, and extending grateful thanks for the friendly goodwill of our valued patrons.

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Scotts Arrive From Vancouver. BIRKENFELD — Mr. and Mrs. George Scott came from Vancouver, B. C. to spend the Christmas holiday with family members and friends.

Eides Join Relatives For Holiday Dinners. RIVERVIEW—Mr. and Mrs. Bud Eide and girls enjoyed Christmas eve dinner at the home of her uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. Otto Stowell at Buxton. Christmas day the same group had dinner at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Falconer at Treharne.

Winter Pruning Aid to Plants. Rose growers can give a little extra protection to their choice plants by cutting back some of the taller growing varieties at this time, suggests Don Coin Walrod, county extension agent.

Adult Classes To Commence. College-level evening classes sponsored by the division of continuing education of the state system of higher education will begin through Oregon the week of January 3-7.

Family Together For Christmas at Buckners. RIVERVIEW—Those enjoying a Christmas dinner at the Ed Buckner home in addition to their daughter-in-law, Mrs. Jerry Buckner and baby who are living here at the present time, were Mrs. Artie Buckner, C. N. Rundell, Mr. and Mrs. Max Buckner and boys, Everett Rundell of Beaverton and Mrs. Ora George of Portland.



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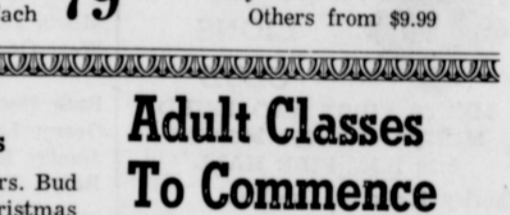
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