

Mulches Stop Flow of Water

Shrubs growing in beds covered with barkdust mulches may be in danger of dying from lack of water, warns Wilbur W. Burkhardt, area extension agent. Barkdust mulches are applied to reduce weed growth and prevent moisture losses through evaporation.

Barkdust will form a hard cake after nearly a year in the same position. The cake acts the same way as that on a lawn by creating a waterproof layer that may appear to be wet on top but does not allow the water to reach the soil below.

Burkhardt recommends using a rake or light tiller to stir the barkdust and create a loose, open condition that will allow water to penetrate into the soil and supply moisture to shrubs contained in the mulched beds.

The black and white pandas that resemble teddy bears are natives of China.

Police issued 33,000 tickets last year for illegally parked cars around the Pentagon Building in Washington.

Grand Coulee Only Storage Reservoir Assured To Fill

Bonneville Power Administration has announced that only one of the seven major power storage reservoirs of the federal Columbia River Power System has assured refill during the spring runoff this year.

Based on the latest forecast of water conditions in the basin, Franklin D. Roosevelt Lake, the reservoir behind Grand Coulee Dam, is the only large power storage reservoir that has a high probability of filling. BPA Power Manager Bernard Goldhammer, said.

Hungry Horse Reservoir, located on South Fork Flathead River in western Montana, for example, has only a 50 percent of filling to within six feet of its full elevation. Under adverse conditions the reservoir could lack as much as 30 feet of its full elevation.

He said the federal Columbia River Power System continues "to squeak through" in meeting its power loads at the present time.

He pointed out that the National Weather Service's River Forecast Center record shows that only about 17.96 inches of precipitation was recorded in the Hungry Horse drainage area from September through April this year, about 76 percent of the 1953-67 average.

Water released from Hungry Horse Dam is used at 19 other projects in the Columbia River system and this increases the downstream prime power supply.

The less than normal precipitation throughout the Columbia Basin this past winter combined with less than anticipated generation from the Centralia coal-fired steamplant has brought reservoirs to their lowest levels in years. Reservoirs involved are Grand Coulee, Hungry Horse, Mica, Duncan, Arrow Lakes, Libby and Dworshak.

The drawdown at Grand Coulee, for example, is the second lowest on record for operational purposes. Only when the reservoir was drawn down for construction of the Third Powerhouse cofferdam in 1969 and for the filling of the John Day pool in 1968 has it reached a lower elevation.

Only in the extreme upper Snake River basin has precipitation been above normal this year with the recording station at Pocatello, Idaho, showing 134 percent of the 1953-67 average. Even at that level, total precipitation is only 9.05 inches, whereas 41.21 inches (74 percent of average) fell at Glacier in the Upper Columbia drainage in British Columbia.

Apples, Pears Due Spray Now

The second cover spray to control codling moths to prevent wormy apples and pears should be applied now, advises Don Coin Walrod, extension agent.

To control codling moths in apples, Oregon State University entomologists suggests, guthion, imidant, diazotol, zolone or chlorphenamide. If mites are a problem, Kelthane, Tordon or Omite should be added.

For pears, guthion, chlorphenamide, and zolone are preferred materials in that they control both codling moth and pear psylla. If mites are a problem, Tordon or Kelthane can be added but Omite should not be used on pears, cautions Walrod.

Fungicides to control apple and pear scab or mildew should be included in this spray program when needed. The severity of scab and mildew varies with varieties planted, weather conditions, and planting locations.

Walrod urges caution in using all pesticides and urges that efforts be made to prevent insecticide drift to plants on which bees are foraging.

Additional details about full spray schedules can be obtained by contacting Oregon county extension agents.

IT PAYS TO READ THE ADS!

Lithia Park Scene of Graduation for SOC

Lithia Park in Ashland was the setting for commencement exercises for the Class of '73, Southern Oregon College Saturday morning, May 26.

Among the graduates receiving degrees was Judi Horn, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bill J. Horn of Vernonia. She received her Bachelor's Degree in general studies at the rites.

Dean's List at Dakota State Notes VHS Grad

James Proehl, son of Mr. and Mrs. Darrold Proehl, was named to the Dakota State College, Madison, S.D., dean's honor list at the end of the spring semester.

James is a 1971 Vernonia High School graduate and is now a social science non-teaching major at DSC.

Bachelor of Science Degree Earned at OCE

Oregon College of Education at Monmouth granted 861 degrees in six categories at commencement Friday, June 8.

Among those earning degrees is Darlene Marie Parrow of Vernonia, who received her Bachelor of Science in education.

Info Available On Furnishings

Major items of home furnishings not only cost a considerable amount of money, but they tend to be around a home for quite awhile. It is not surprising that consumers are concerned about making the best purchasing decisions possible, says Carol A. Ashley, Columbia County extension home economist.

A new way of providing help to those who are shopping for home furnishings is in the test stage at Oregon State University. Five "Consumer Portfolios" have been assembled to provide shopping guidelines, plus factual information on materials and construction, care, and buymanship techniques.

The home furnishings items covered are rugs and carpets, resilient floor coverings such as linoleum and vinyl, upholstered and wood furniture and window treatments of all kinds.

According to Mrs. Ashley a limited number of portfolios are available to consumers who are in the market now for one or more of these home furnishings items.

In return for being given a portfolio free of charge, each consumer will be expected to return an evaluation form within one month giving an opinion on the usefulness of each of the publications included in the portfolio. On the basis of these evaluations, the OSU extension service will decide whether to make the portfolios available on a continuing basis.

Coast Guard Reservists Make Study

An intensive month-long project to form a contingency plan in case of water pollution along the Oregon/ Washington coasts and on the Columbia and Willamette Rivers began June 2 when almost 40 Coast Guard Reservists left the Portland Coast Guard Station for shoreline areas.

The men were the first of two groups of Coast Guard Reservists who will spend their annual two-weeks active duty conducting a field survey for the contingency plan. The second group will begin the second and final segment of the project on June 16.

The reservists will cover about 1200 miles of coast line to note the type of terrain, determine the best access roads to shoreline areas, locate and catalogue sources of equipment needed to fight an oil spill, determine areas particularly vulnerable to spill damage (such as parks), note potential pollution sources and compile a listing of agencies and persons in local areas which should be notified when a spill occurs.

According to Captain Richard Malm, captain of the Port of Portland and the on-scene coordinator of Coast Guard operations in case of a pollution incident anywhere from the California border to Point Grenville, Washington, "This contingency plan will provide the Coast Guard and other agencies with a new and valuable tool in making an immediate and effective response to pollution incidents."

"Through assistance from local residents who have helped us greatly by reporting pollution sightings, the regular pollution patrols conducted by Coast Guard units throughout the Oregon/ Washington area and the aerial surveillance flights conducted by Coast Guard aircraft from Astoria, we are rapidly moving ahead in our effort to locate and insure the clean-up of any pollution incident."

"The primary advantage of the local contingency plans is that it will drastically reduce the time needed to respond to a spill and greatly increase the chances of preventing or limiting pollution damage," Malm concluded.

The weather bureau considers a blizzard as a time when a fine, dry snow is driven by a wind of 35 miles an hour or more and visibility is reduced to 500 feet.

Only 2.6 percent of the Veterans Administration's budget (\$12 billion) is used for general operating expenses. About 74 percent goes for direct monetary benefits, 22 percent for medical care, and 1.4 percent for hospital construction.

GI Bill Use Sets Record for 1972

Veterans in school under the current G.I. Bill sent April enrollments soaring to a record 1.4 million—the most in nearly 22 years, the Veterans Administration reported.

Noting enrollments rose 12 percent over a year ago, Administrator Donald E. Johnson pointed out "The last time participation was higher was when 1,433 million veterans trained under the original G.I. Bill in December 1961."

Johnson said that although April's 1.4 million enrollment was the highest under the current G.I. Bill, 1,367 million veterans trained in March, also a substantial number.

April statistics also reveal 14 percent increases above a year ago levels in both on-job training and education study below college level. On-job training stood at 110,000, up from 96,000, while below college training rose to 446,000 from 390,000.

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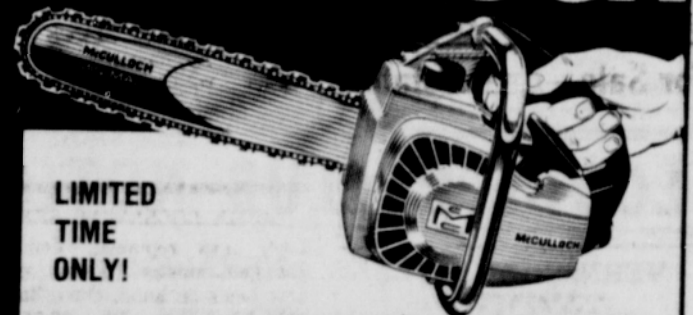
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JIMMY DEAN, REG. OR HOT
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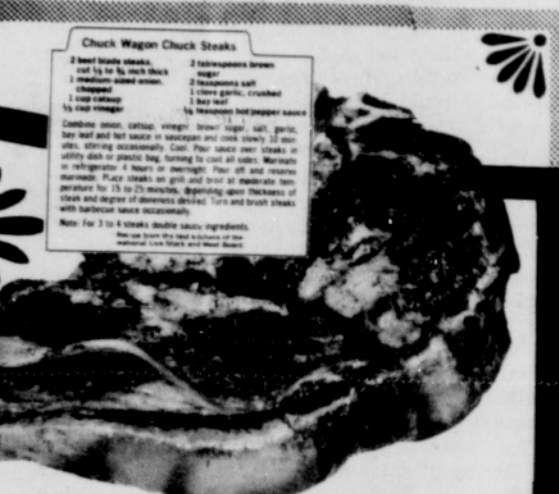
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