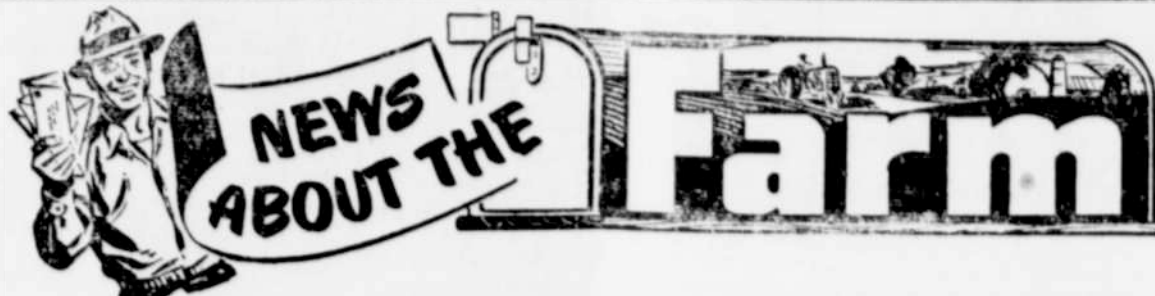


YOUR Gate City Journal's



Proper Use Of Fertilizer Mandatory For Maximum Development of Farms

LeRoy Pulliam

Nearly everyone uses fertilizers these days. It matters less what kind of fertilizer you use—dry, liquid or gas—than when and how you use it and how much. Whatever type you prefer, use the kind and amounts your crops and soils need, in the recommended way.

Liquid fertilizers are among the newest developments in the fertilizer field. There are certain advantages, as well as disadvantages, from their use. Here are some facts about them to consider:

Liquids are easy to mix. You can mix different concentrations and combinations quite readily for special needs. The fertilizer is already in solution; thus readily available to plants. Weak solutions of certain fertilizers sprayed on the foliage are helpful if the soil is low in plant nutrients. The amount absorbed through the leaves is usually small compared to the total amount of fertilizer required to produce a heavy crop.

But remember, too strong a solution on the foliage or placed too near the plant causes damage.

Some liquid fertilizers are cheaper than the dry materials. This is because in the manufacturing process a number of fertilizers are in liquid form at certain stages. The expense of drying the fertilizers is saved if the liquids are used. This saving can be passed on to the farmer if the shipping cost is not too high. But if the dry fertilizer is merely dissolved in water again and sold in

solution form, it may cost more than the dry fertilizer because more rather than fewer operations are used.

State laws require that the label on the fertilizer bag or container shows what fertilizer elements and how much are in the produce—figures like 5-10-5 or 10-15-5, for example. This means that 100 pounds of the first fertilizer contains five pounds of available nitrogen (N), 10 pounds of available phosphate (P2O5) and five pounds of available potash (K2O). A 10-15-5 fertilizer contains 10 pounds of N, 15 pounds of P2O5 and five pounds of K2O per 100 pounds of material.

The analysis of liquid fertilizers is given in exactly the same way as is the analysis of dry fertilizers—on a weight basis. A gallon of water weighs about 8 1/2 pounds. Thus one gallon of 10-15-5 fertilizer (weighing 10 pounds) would contain only one pound of nitrogen, 1 1/2 pounds of phosphate and 1/2 pound of potash. It would take 10 gallons of the liquid 10-15-5 to provide the same amount of fertilizer as does the 100 pound bag of dry 10-15-5.

Make sure you know how much nitrogen, phosphate and potash the fertilizer contains before you buy. Find out the amounts of the plant nutrients you are getting for your money when you compare dry and liquid fertilizer. For example, a ton of dry 10-15-5 fertilizer costs less than \$100. It would require about 200 gallons



4-H CLUB ACTIVITIES

By County Extension Agents

Junior 4-H Leaders Meet

Plans for a 4-H club annual were the main topics of business at the January meeting of the Junior 4-H Leaders held at the Neil Hoffman house last Thursday. This annual will tell the story of 4-H club work in Malheur county during the last year. The plans now are to have the annual ready for distribution during the county fair. Each 4-H club president and leader will be contacted soon concerning pictures for the annual and suggestions for a suitable name.

These names will be judged by a committee of junior leaders and the club which submits the winning name will receive a gift for their club. By doing this the club hopes to get a name characteristic of club work in Malheur county. The group set their next meeting date for Monday evening, Jan. 4, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. William Looney.

Club Enrollments

During the past two weeks we have received the enrollment blanks for most of the clubs organized, however, we do not have all of them. From time to time we need to correspond with both the leaders and the club members and it is impossible to do this if we do not have this record. We will appreciate getting these. If you need an enrollment blank, please let us know.

Eastern Oregon 4-H Leaders Meet

The 4-H club leaders from Eastern Oregon will have an opportunity to meet together in Heppner, Feb. 7 and 8. We discussed this during our January

Adrian Feed Store Buys Special Trucks

New Idea brand beds to spread dry fertilizers such as ammonium sulphate and phosphate have been purchased by Adrian Feed company. Mounted on 1957 Chevrolet trucks, it is possible to spread as much as 80 acres in a day. The trucks can spread from 100 lbs. to 1 ton per acre. One truck is at Parma Seed Co. and the other at Adrian Feed Co. The trucks cost \$8,000. There is a definite trend toward the use of this type of equipment in fertilizer business.

cussed this during our January leaders council meeting and all 4-H leaders will receive more information concerning this at a later date.

New 4-H Material

4-H members and leaders will be working with quite a bit of new project material this year. New bulletins of instruction are off the press for beef, dairy and the "clothes for fun and sun" division of the clothing project.

New records will be in use also. Perhaps most important of these new records is a permanent record book in which the members will summarize their project and activities at the end of the year. This form will be extremely valuable to members competing for special awards.

Each member will also receive a folder in which to keep all their 4-H records. This will give a handy place to keep their permanent record book, their 4-H stories, and their project record books.

New project record books are in use for livestock, cookery and crafts projects.

This new material has been explained to 4-H leaders at a series of community meetings. These meetings were in Vale, Pioneer, Lincoln, Adrian, Oregon Trail, Arcadia and Jamieson communities. A meeting for leaders in the Ontario community is scheduled for Jan. 25.

Malheur Leaders at State Meet

Four local 4-H leaders from Malheur county are attending the state 4-H leaders conference at Corvallis this week. Included are Mrs. Dyre Roberts of Adrian, president of the Malheur 4-H Leaders council, Mrs. T. R. Bowlers of Arcadia, Mrs. J. B. White of Juntura and Ross Mills of Adrian. Rebecca Johnston is accompanying the group.

Theme of the conference this

1957 Hog Price Prospects Good, Economist Says

Hog price prospects look good for 1957. Farmers shouldn't count on a repeat of 1954 prices, but \$20 hogs are definitely back in the picture, says M. D. Thomas, Oregon State college agricultural economist.

Oregon's favorable feed situation, good hog-raising climate and strong pork market have combined to put Oregon swine growers in a strong competitive position this year, the economist states.

With about 10 percent of national population, the Pacific Coast raises only 1 percent of the pigs. This usually keeps Coast hog prices the highest in the nation, Thomas pointed out.

Nationally, the fall pig crop was 4 percent smaller than a year earlier. Spring farrowings are expected to be 2 percent smaller than last spring and 10 percent less than the spring of 1955. Adding to the optimism of fewer pig numbers is the Oregon feed situation. Another bumper barley crop is anticipated from acres diverted from wheat production under government production quotas.

The economist advises swine growers to get barrows from the coming spring pig crop to market before mid-September. He also recommends selling weaner pigs next fall or the spring of 1958 if it looks like the Midwest is coming back strong by that time.

W. Y. Fowler, OSC livestock marketing specialist, says that farmers planning to stay with hogs over the long pull, should get into the long meaty type. A price differential of \$1.50 a hundred usually exists between the meaty No. 1 hogs and the fat No. 3's, says Fowler. And research shows it takes more feed to put on a pound of fat than a pound of lean meat.

Mr. and Mrs. Mark White and family of Vale and Mr. and Mrs. Dick Harris and Steve visited Thursday evening at the Roger Smith home.

year is "Working with older boys and girls." Dr. Glen Dildine from the National 4-H Foundation and Ed Aiton from the federal extension office will be consultants in the group discussion.

Farm and Barn News and Views

By Joe Witty

The proving ground and the glamour of the vocational agriculture program can be found in the supervised farming program of each vocational agriculture student. The commonly called FFA project is the testing ground for the classroom instruction. Here the boys put to practice the things they have learned in class. In turn, they bring the problems that have come up in their projects to class for discussion.

It is always a great joy to observe these projects. As I go out to supervise the boys projects I can grade myself on the effectiveness of my teaching. Those that are putting into practice the best methods of production are the boys who are making money for themselves and gaining valuable experience for the day when they will be out on their own.

The money angle is a good drawing point for the projects, however it is not always a good measurement of the success of the project. Changing prices play havoc with some enterprises of the best farmers. By keeping accurate records throughout the development of the project these weak and strong points can be observed. Often a failure can be made into a valuable experience if the reason for the failure can be determined and corrected.

From the projects recently

BREEDING DATE VITAL

A dairy cow that is not bred within 120 days following calving may cause a loss of as much as \$40.00 to her owner if she is not safely with calf. Each day that a cow remains unbred beyond 120 days after calving reduces her lifetime production by one pound of butterfat.

completed at Adrian there were 44 head of dairy stock, 42 head of beef, 16 sheep and 74 head of hogs. In the crops department we had 39 acres of small grain, 4 acres of corn, 5 acres of alfalfa, 6 1/2 acres of potatoes, 3 acres of lettuce seed and 1 garden. The receipts for the year were \$28,225.18 with \$19,268.11 expenses. This left \$8,957.07 for labor income.

The chapter now owns 5 live-stock chains. Richard Lovett has the dairy chain which is a Jersey heifer. She is due to freshen March 30. If the calf is a heifer, Richard will turn it over to the chapter when it reaches 8 months of age. The chapter will then give the heifer to another freshman or sophomore. Jimmy Chaney recently was awarded the beef chain which is a Hereford. We have 3 swine chains. Two of the chains are Yorkshires, and the other is a Montana No. 1. Charles Nelson and Tommy Smith have the Yorkshire chains and Alan Boatright has the Montana No. 1 swine. We have 2 boars in the chapter Boar co-op. One is a mature Montana No. 1 boar and the other is a young Yorkshire boar.

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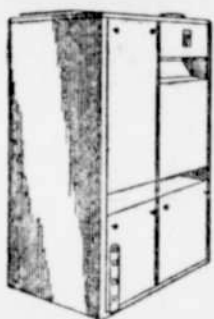
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