

## How Antibiotics Affect Livestock

Antibiotics in the daily livestock ration act more or less like a medicine and may be called "health insurance." They are not considered direct growth stimulants such as vitamins and other nutritional boosters.

There is apparently no such thing as a completely healthy animal. There are a lot of normal ones, but that does not mean they are healthy. Even though animals look like they are doing well, they are constantly harboring what veterinarians call sub-clinical infections. There are low-level infections which compete with the animal for its nutrition and livelihood. In time of stress (such as hauling, vaccination and castration) low nutrition and bad weather may cause these infections to multiply and impair the health of the animals.

Therefore, scientists are pretty much agreed that the continuous daily feeding of cattle of a level of 10 milligrams of aureomycin per 100 pounds of weight may give excellent results. For young cattle 75 milligrams per head per day can be fed over the entire feeding period without making adjustments for body weight change. For lambs 10 milligrams of aureomycin per pound of total ration gives best results.

Consequently, the feeding of low-level aureomycin may reduce

## PREGNANCY TESTING

Beef cattle herds that were pregnancy tested in the fall and early winter showed an unusually large number of barren cows. Each one of these culled out meant a saving in winter feed costs of from \$30 to \$40. One herd had 26% barren cows. Others report from 10 to 20% of cows not settled. It is too late for most ranchers to adopt this practice for this year. We should recommend it for next fall.

cost of production (1) by lowering or eliminating death loss in visibly sick animals, (2) by improving weight gains and feed efficiency, (3) by lessening the recovery period needed once the disease is brought under control, and (4) by minimizing the further spread of infection.

The whole idea about a daily low-level feeding of aureomycin is that a healthier animal is able to convert feed into meat more efficiently. A desirable antibiotic would be one that would be:

1. Active against a wide range of diseases.
2. Safe at high concentrations.
3. Palatable at high concentrations.
4. Readily absorbed through the intestinal wall and distributed throughout the system.
5. Retained in the tissues long enough to be effective.
6. Stable both in the feed and in the tissues.
7. One against which organisms do not readily develop resistance.

## Farm and Barn News and Views

By LeRoy Pulliam

I have been hearing people say wool products are too high; others say wool is too low. Still others say their wool than their neighbor.

It might be of interest to point out that the manufacturer can trace the wool he buys back to the producer. The wool bags are numbered and a record of the producer and the number is made. This, then, would indicate that every wool producer should remove the stains and tags from a fleece before tying and sacking. Then tags should be kept separate. Also, a clean floor for shearing is essential. The fleece is tied with paper twine to keep any foreign fiber from the wool. The paper can be dissolved out. Yet, some will shear in the straw and manure, hence, insuring a reputation for poor quality.

Every livestock producer is aware that when a choice beef is sold, butchered and retailed across the counter, the carcass is divided into about 12 cuts, each cut differing from the others in price according to which section of the animal it originated. Round steak costs less than sirloin and boiling meat less than hamburger. The price received by the producer, however, depends solely on the finish of the animal—the better the animal, the higher the price.

A similar situation exists with wool; there are 11 kinds of wool on one fleece, all differing in value to the user. According to the American Wool Handbook, no two fleeces even from the same type of sheep and from the same district are exactly alike in quality and quantity.

If the manufacturer were to use a fleece in its original form he could only produce medium or coarse yarns respectively and the resulting cloth would never be of the highest possible quality. Prior to processing it is necessary to divide the fleeces or pieces into their respective spinning qualities so that they may be used for different grades of cloth.

Wool sorting is the first process which greasy wool undergoes when it is purchased by the manufacturer. The wools are judged according to fineness, lengths, soundness, color and the amount of vegetable matter. This places all the fiber with definite or equal character into one group, enabling the manufacturer to produce out of this sort, yards of fabric for which it is best suited.

The American Wool Handbook goes on to explain that all the whole fleeces in each bale have previously been classed upon arrival at a mill. "This means that there is a great difference between classing of fleeces as a whole and opening and sorting into subsorts. Sorting is a more advanced step and more scientific skill is required. A mill, manufacturing high quality goods, will always make as many sorts as possible to get the full benefit of each fleece. Whereas, mills running on lower grades of goods may make only two main sorts, by throwing out the edges of the fleeces only. In other words, the higher the quality, the more care-



## 4-H CLUB ACTIVITIES

By County Extension Agents

### Scholarships Received

Word has just been received from the state 4-H club office that Anne Simpson of Willowcreek has been awarded the Carl Raymond Gray scholarship presented by the Union Pacific Railroad company. This is a \$100 scholarship to be applied toward the cost of a college education. It will be paid when the winner registers at Oregon State college.

Alternate was Margaret Butler of Adrian. She will receive the

fully the sorting is done. The general tendency in this country is to do less and less wool sorting, since the operation is done by hand and is necessarily slow and expensive. It is estimated that over 75 percent of the wool consumed in the U.S. is "trap sorted." The latter means that from each fleece, very little is removed apart from low ends, tags and britch. The wool sorter must spend four years learning his trade and that when full fleece is laid open before him and the various parts noted such as the head, tail and side, he commences to "skirt" the fleece.

The fleece comes in 11 distinct grades on sorting. The name of the part and the prevailing wool is:

1. Top-knot, consisting of a very light, short, moist and inferior wool.
2. Neck-wool—very light conditioned and a long-stapled wool, also containing coarse, matted lumps of inferior wool in the folds.
3. Shoulder wool, the best wool grown by the sheep, is obtained from the shoulder. Sheep judges usually take the shoulder wool as a standard, and see how the wool on the other portions of the sheep compare with it.
4. Fleece wool—consisting of good average flock wool, usually free from all vegetable matter.
5. Bricket wool, similar to shoulder wool, usually a little heavier in condition.
6. Back wool—This wool is inclined to be open and musky.
7. Britch wool—A coarser wool than the other portions of the fleece and in many cases inclined to be kempy; the wool is also matted with burrs and seeds.
8. Arm pieces—Consisting of a very short wool surrounded by frizzly edges; burrs or seeds, collect heavily on this portion of the fleece.
9. Hairy shanks—Hairy or kempy fibers containing very little wool; they are used for the manufacture of low quality goods such as cow or horse rugs and blended with other wools.
10. Stained wool—This wool will not wash white but is very heavy in condition containing manure, urine and other contaminating materials.
11. Belly wool—A good, bulky wool, heavy in condition usually very burry and seedy.

scholarship if Anne is unable to use it.

The railroad annually offers this scholarship in agriculture or home economics to a 4-H boy or girl in each county in Oregon served by the Union Pacific.

### Demonstrations and Contests

The 4-H club leaders and club members in the Buena Vista community met this past Saturday morning in the home of Mrs. Stanley Hill for a special work day with demonstrations and contests. The club members and leaders in other communities plan work days of this type and as soon as the dates for these meetings are more definite we will list the meeting places and time in this column.

Miss Naida Whybark, home economist for the Oregon Wheat commission met this past Monday evening with members of 4-H cooking clubs. Miss Whybark gave an excellent demonstration on bread making with special help given to those who plan to enter the bread making contest during Spring Show or give a bread baking demonstration. Help was also given by Miss Whybark to those club members and leaders who plan to enter the cake baking contest. This contest has been changed this year. For many years, (most of you will remember) there has been a cake baking contest for girls interested in learning to make yellow sponge cakes. Instead of the yellow sponge cake contest, there will be a cake making contest for club members featuring the plain white cake.

Members of the Clover Leaf 4-H club in Ontario and the Stitch and Chatter club in the Ontario Heights community met together this last week for a work meeting in the county extension office. The group discussed contests available to enter during Spring Show as well as some special work on demonstrations and judging. The follow-up work which they plan to do on this sounded real interesting. If you are interested please call either Mrs. William Conger or Mrs. Esther Pierce, leader of the two clubs.

### National 4-H Club Week

There will be special 4-H club work done during the week of March 2-9 for this is National 4-H Club Week. We do not have the names or places of all the clubs who plan to have window displays, so be sure to look for the ones in your town or community. The county agent's program heard at 12:25 each day over KSRV will feature 4-H club work during most of the week.

## Farmers Invited To Soil Testing Meet Saturday

Area farmers are invited to a meeting on soil testing to be held at the Malheur Experiment Station Saturday morning, according to Leeds Bailey, county extension agent. The session will start at 9:00 a.m., March 9.

L. A. Alban, head of the Oregon State College soil testing service, will be present to discuss soil and irrigation water testing. He will have suggestions as to how to use tests in determining a fertilizing program.

A discussion on fertilizers will round out the morning program.

### HAY FEEDING ADDS WEIGHT

Two-year-old ewes wintered on hay plus concentrate produced nearly 60 percent more pounds of lamb than ewes grazed on range plus a concentrate supplement, according to a recent research report from the Montana Agricultural Experiment Station. The college has just issued a new bulletin on this study entitled, "Production of Two-Year-Old Range Ewes".

## Bergam Awarded Ag Scholarship

Donald Gene Bergam of Nyssa has been awarded a \$200 scholarship as an "outstanding sophomore student" in the field of ornamental horticulture in the school of agriculture at Oregon State college.

The award, one of 42 presented at the annual ag banquet, is provided by the Oregon Federation of Garden clubs to recognize scholarships in horticulture.

Bergam, son of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert E. Bergam, Nyssa, is a 1947 graduate of Nyssa high school.

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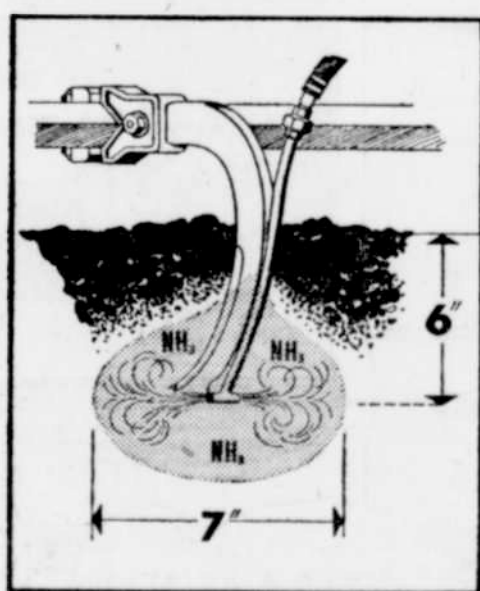
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## Facts on Nitrogen Fertilizing



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