

YOUR Gate City Journal's



Farm and Barn News and Views

By LeRoy Pulliam

Dean Sisson, a sophomore Ag student, has set a record for himself in raising pigs. He weaned 14 pigs Saturday, August 24, from a purebred Yorkshire sow. His sow farrowed at 10 months of age and had eight. She raised these eight to weaning. On the second and third litters, Dean's sow farrowed and raised 10 each time. This time she had 13 pigs. All of these were born alive. Dean looked at this litter and decided one sow could not raise all fifteen pigs, especially since she had only 14 "dinner plates." The only thing to do was to make the litter smaller. He disposed of the runt.

Dean was now trying to beat both the state and the national average in weaning this litter. The national average is now between six and seven pigs weaned per sow. Oregon state average is about 1/2 pig more.

With careful management this litter was weaned with a total weight of 434 pounds. This is only a 31-pound average per pig but it can be done.

Some of the things the Sissons do in the management of their swine herd are:

They run their breeding herd on alfalfa pasture, supplementing this with grain and protein supplement.

Worming the sows before breeding each time, and worming the pigs at weaning and again at 80 to 100 pounds in weight.

They use individual farrowing crates for the sows at farrowing, thus preventing them from crushing newly born pigs.

By using shade and having an ample supply of fresh water.

They also feed a laxative ration five days before farrowing and five days after farrowing to help in the flow of milk. They also believe this helps in reducing milk fever.

Livestock Judges Named for Fair

Judges for the livestock and agricultural divisions of the 57 Malheur County Fair were named last week by the fair board according to Blaine Girvin, chairman.

In the livestock division, Dean Frischknecht, Oregon state college animal husbandry specialist, and E. L. (Gus) Woods, county agent at Prineville, will judge the 4-H and open class beef, sheep and swine. J. F. Svinth of Salem will put the placings on the 4-H dairy and Harold Ewalt of Oregon State college will judge open class dairy. In the FFA division, Don Stuart of Union will judge the livestock entries.

V. W. Johnson, county agent from Pendleton will place the land produce division and will help score the various booths in the agricultural exhibit hall.

The saddle horse club members and their mounts will be judged by Roy Brewer.

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LT. LEWIS RIGGS

Lt. Lewis K. Riggs who is stationed with the Portland International Airport, spent Saturday and Sunday with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Riggs.

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Ergot in Wheat Noted in Some County Fields

Ergot, normally a disease of grains and grasses in humid regions, has been noticed in a few wheat fields this year according to George Bain, county agent.

This disease, noticed more often in grass ranges, can be dangerous to animals. It is a fungus first noticeable by the sticky fluid on part of the grain or grass heads soon after the heads emerge. Later and at harvest it can be determined by the purplish black sclerotia in the heads. The sclerotia are shaped somewhat like a rye kernel but usually are longer. It threshes out with the grain and can be noticed there.

The United States grain standard allows up to three-tenths of one percent ergot by weight before discounting grain. The ergot content of milled products is limited by law according to Bain.

To date there is no satisfactory seed treatment or resistant varieties of barley, rye or wheat. The ergot spore are spread into fields from adjacent grass stands or from the soil. The grasses most commonly infested are quackgrass, bromgrass, wheatgrass and rye grass. Some control can be obtained by mowing areas of these grasses which are adjacent to grain fields before they head.

While ergot has been noticed in grasses in this area during some years over a long period of time, this is the first year it has been noticed to any extent in grain. Losses of livestock during the years it becomes bad, have been reported. Usually ergot in range grasses occurs during the years of rank growth. Bain expressed the opinion that possibly the cool wet spring caused the increase in the grain this year.

Jumbo, The Steer Slated for Fair

Junco, a 5-year-old Hereford steer belonging to Charley Chapman of Riverdale, will be back to the Malheur County Fair this year according to George Bain, county extension agent.

Chapman told Bain last week that the steer has grown quite a lot this past year. He will be exhibited grass fat at this fair. Then in '58, Chapman plans to feed Jumbo grain and really have him big. He is the biggest steer that has ever been shown at the fair here. Last year he weighed 1,905. This year he should weigh well over 2,000.

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4-H CLUB ACTIVITIES

By County Extension Agent

County Fair Holds Spotlight

Fairs and exhibits hold the spotlight in 4-H club work this week and next. County and state fairs are both receiving their share of attention from 4-H club members and leaders of Malheur county.

Exhibits in 4-H livestock classes look like they are ahead of any previous year. From pre-registration figures sent in by local leaders, there are about a third more beef than last year, about 20% more dairy animals and several more hogs and sheep. Some increase is noted in all classes.

Demands for additional space to house all the livestock exhibits have been a real headache for the fair board. But through their sympathetic consideration and the cooperation of members and leaders, everything was housed in good shape.

Food preservation and home living exhibits also showed some increase over last year. Allowing club members to freeze part of the requirement of their food preservation projects has increased interest in this particular project.

Additional classes have been provided for 4-H livestock exhibits this year. Dairy classes have been broken down into junior and senior age groups in the calf, heifer and cow classes. This has helped to cut down on the large numbers we have previously had in many of our dairy classes. Some breakdown on age classification has also been made in the sheep and swine breeding classes. The beef classes have remained as they were.

The big event for exhibitors of fat stock is the junior fat stock

Arcadia 4-H Club Has Regular Meet

The Arcadia 4-H Livestock club held their regular meeting Thursday, Aug. 8 at the Leroy Pulliam home.

Discussion covered various things concerning the Malheur county fair and their projects to be shown.

Members filled out their entry blanks to enter the fair.

Refreshments were served by Mrs. Pulliam.

Two members of the club, Jimmy Houston and Billy Young attended 4-H camp at McCall last week.

Husband—A domesticated animal capable of being skinned more than once. — Changing Times.

auction scheduled for Friday, Aug. 30, at 7:30 p.m. This is the time when club members market the animals fed out in their projects during the past year.

And by the way, it's a mighty good opportunity to bid in some really good meat. Where families are small, two or three can go together, bid in one of the fat steers and have it butchered to go into the locker. By buying one of the middle grade animals the cost is not at all excessive.

Quite a number of clothing exhibits were sent to the state fair at Salem the forepart of the week. These were all exhibits that were selected for this honor at our spring show.

Because of the time and distance involved, no cooking exhibits were sent. We have found from past experience that cooking exhibits sent from here get too stale by the time they are judged and don't stand a chance with freshly baked exhibits.

In addition to the exhibits, there are a number of club members who will be entered in the different contests. We will have contestants entered in the home economics judging contest, bread baking, cake baking demonstration, contests and dress revue. This will be one of the biggest representations we have ever had at the state fair.

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Prize Handwork Displays Wanted For County Fair

The 48th annual Malheur County Fair is practically at hand and with it the opportunity to again assemble our prize handwork, whether it be cooking, sewing, gardening, painting or photography. This is the yearly summing up of many projects and is the culmination of the year's efforts.

The Ontario armory could be called the hall of arts since it will contain so many exhibits of an artistic nature. The examples of crafts and skills exhibited there are those used and useful in everyday life.

Of course exhibits by themselves are interesting and attractive, but the colorful ribbons attached to winning entries add to the display. Judging these entries is a skill in itself and the home economics division has been chosen to judge, according to Mrs. Wimsatt, county extension agent.

Mrs. R. O. Mayer of Weiser will be judging the flower exhibits and there will be some new awards according to Mrs. Wimsatt.

The paintings will be judged by A. J. Finkbeiner of Nampa and there are enough artists in Malheur county for this to be a cultural advantage for all.

Advance interest displayed by residents of the county indicates a varied and interesting collection for viewing. Mrs. Wimsatt asserts there is sufficient time to think about entering an exhibit and there are premium books available for those interested at the county agent's office. If you would like further information Mrs. Wimsatt will be available.

MR. AND MRS. E. BEUS

VACATION IN NYSSA

Mr. and Mrs. Ezra Beus of Ogden, Utah, returned home recently after spending three weeks here visiting their two sons and a daughter here. They are Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Beus, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Beus and Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Johnson.

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Adrian News

By Mrs. Rose Willis

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Jarvis and family called on Mrs. Mary Jarvis Saturday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Day left last week for a vacation in Mexico.

Karen Deffer spent from Wednesday to Saturday at Bergdorf.

Mr. and Mrs. Kermit Keyser of Bonanza, Ore., brought their daughter Joanne to stay at the home of Mrs. Mary Jarvis Monday evening. Joanne is a Adrian high school teacher.

The Adrian girls softball team and their families had a picnic at the Adrian community park Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. George Ward of Caldwell called on Mr. and Mrs. George Ward and family Sunday evening.

W. W. Webb returned from Lima, Ohio Saturday with a new school bus.

Mary Hatt called at the Vernon

Parker home Sunday.

Mrs. Bill Willis, Mrs. Mary Jarvis and Jim Lee visited Mrs. Willie McGinnis and Mrs. Vina Matthews at the Nyssa Memorial hospital Friday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Alvon McGinnis and Billy and Marsha Willis called on Mr. and Mrs. Jim McGinnis Monday evening.

Mrs. Clarence Eyberg, Sheila and Bobby left for their home in Omaha, Neb., Tuesday morning. They have been visiting Mr. and Mrs. Austin Gilbert.

Mr. and Mrs. Ham Chadderdon and Mr. and Mrs. Sam Hartley were Saturday evening dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Bob Patterson and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Saari and girls of Corvallis were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Bob Patterson several days last week.

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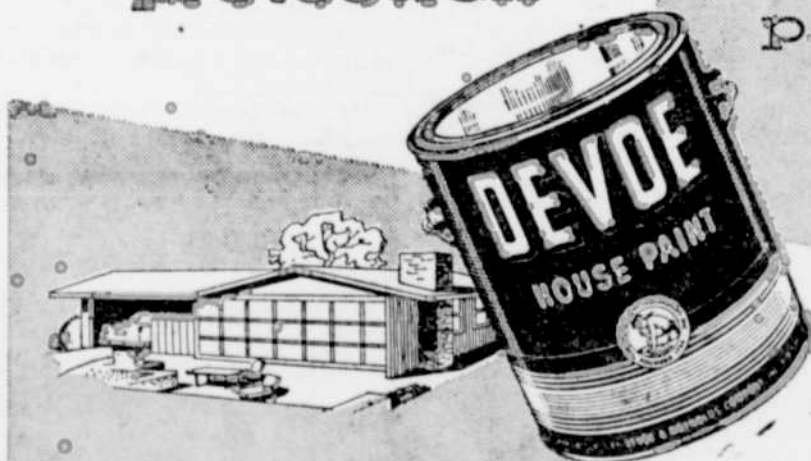
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