

News of Special Interest to Nebraska and Iowa Farmers

Numerous Prizes Wait Nebraskans During Corn Show

Several Hundred Dollars and Many Trophies and Ribbons Hung Up in Annual Exhibition.

Lincoln, Neb., Dec. 17.—Several hundred dollars in premiums, together with trophies and ribbons, are waiting the victors of Nebraska's prize corn, winter and spring wheat, oats, rye and barley exhibits, which are to be on display here January 4-5 at the annual corn show held by the Nebraska Crop Growers' association. It is disclosed in the western section of the association's annual meeting and the show will be held at the agricultural college during agricultural week.

The corn exhibit has been divided into three sections, one for the eastern and western sections of the state and a state-wide section open to all members. Four classes of corn are listed in the divisional sections and four kinds of corn, two of popcorn and one each of wheat, spring wheat, early oats, late oats, winter rye and barley are listed in the state-wide exhibit. The western section includes those counties east of the western boundaries of Knox, Antelope, Boone, Nemack, Merrick, Hamilton, Clay and Nuckolls counties. The western division contains all those not included in the eastern division.

Premiums and ribbons will be given three prize exhibitors of 10 ears of each large yellow and white dent corn, and a similar number for 10 ears of dent corn other than white or yellow, and a single ear of dent corn, any variety. The same prizes are designated for western exhibitors. Three prizes and ribbons go with the first three displays in the state-wide exhibition, respectively yellow dent corn, white dent corn, flint corn, white rice popcorn, other white rice popcorn, peck threshed winter wheat, peck threshed spring wheat, peck threshed early oats, peck threshed late oats, peck winter rye and peck of barley.

The grand champion 10 ears, the best 10 ears of yellow corn, best 10 ears of white corn and grand champion single ear of any variety will carry away the sweepstakes. Trophies will be presented by local merchants. The honorary, amateur and junior classes as held at previous shows have been consolidated into one general class for all. Exhibitors at the show must be members of the association, it is stipulated, and exhibits must be in place not later than December 31. The grand champion 10 ears are to become the property of the association.

Short Courses Open January 23

Instruction in Variety of Subjects Offered by State College This Winter.

Lincoln, Dec. 17.—Winter short courses in auto tractor mechanics, animal husbandry, animal pathology, poultry raising, entomology, field crops and soils, grain grading, horticulture, poultry husbandry and rural economics at the Nebraska agricultural college, will begin January 23 and continue through February 17, according to bulletins being sent out to Nebraska farmers and others. The courses are arranged for those who have but a few weeks' time to devote to these studies and are open only to those over 16 years of age.

The fundamental principles of stock raising and feeding, practical work in judging and slaughtering, dressing and curing meats are a few of the subjects for animal husbandry students. The nature and preventive measures for animal disease and how to handle emergencies among such diseases are touched upon in animal pathology. A study of dairy and breed types, judging, selection and care of the dairy herd, calf raising, feeding, testing and inspection are on the dairying course. Insect control comes under the entomology outline.

The use of the moisture tester, sampler and other pieces of grain grading devices will be studied. Methods of pruning, spraying and planting trees and shrubs come under horticulture. Poultry management, judging and breeding, hatching and raising chickens are divisional subjects in the poultry course. Farm accounting is the principal subject in the rural economics course.

"Burn Corn or Bust" Slogan of Knox County Organization

Bloomfield, Neb., Dec. 17.—(Special.)—"Burn Corn or Bust" is the slogan adopted by an organization which has just been formed here among business men and farmers. A permanent organization was effected by the election of Ray Satterlee, president, and W. A. Trenhaile, secretary-treasurer. Under the plan agreed upon, each business man will buy at least two tons of corn at \$9 a ton for use as fuel. Each farmer is limited to the sale of but two tons to any one individual. By doing this, those back of the movement hope to start something that will spread over the entire corn section. It is sure to cut down corn shipments and will prevent the grain being piled up in terminal elevators, thus blocking the sale of other corn at meager prices. It will also have an effect on the coal situation and it is confidently expected, will force lower prices on fuel.

Thayer County Farmers Plan to Install Electricity

Desbler, Neb., Dec. 17.—(Special.)—A delegation of farmers residing between Byron and Hardy were in Desbler inspecting the light and power plant. They are anxious to have the transmission line to their towns pass near enough to their farms to enable them to make connections.

"Hundredth Man" Makes Success of Alfalfa Seed Farms in Nebraska



Here is a picture of one of the flourishing fields at the Henderson alfalfa seed farm near Benkelman, Neb. Inset is a likeness of Stone wall J. Henderson, dubbed "the hundredth man."

ing in the open as though spring had come—the alfalfa was showing green sprouts, four days later the thermometer registered 22 degrees below zero. These extremes are repeated in western Nebraska several times during the winter.

The Henderson farms are without

Farm Bureau Is Money Maker for Fillmore County

Report of County Agent Shows Estimated Value of Work Is \$65,000—Live Stock Improved.

Geneva, Neb., Dec. 17.—(Special.)—The estimated value of the farm bureau work in Fillmore county for the past year as shown in the annual report of J. L. Thomas, county agricultural agent, is \$64,752.82. There were 18 projects carried out and 198 demonstrations made by experts in various lines. Poultry culling, vaccination of stock and a general campaign against the pocket gopher, were some of the beneficial agencies used.

Four herds in the county are on the "accredited" list and 19 farmers have been awarded emblems for adopting as the motto for stock-raising, "pure bred sires" only. Ten farms are to be homes for accredited flocks.

Kaured wheat was grown by 200 farmers. This crop at \$1 a bushel would mean \$19,250 more to the county than if kaured had not been grown.

More farmers raised rosen rye and found a considerable increase in the yield of seed and more pasture than from common rye. Sudan grass and sweet clover are growing in popularity with members of the farm bureau.

More farmers did their own work the past season than ever before. With the expense of labor saved, it cost an average of from 30 to 40 cents a bushel to raise the corn crop this year.

From a farmer's notebook it is shown that with 7-month-old pigs weighing 18.6 pounds, the cost was \$8.52 per 100 pounds to produce him. The average profit per pig was \$10.18.

There are 1,000 members in the Fillmore county farm bureau and an organization in each of the precincts. Farm women have three clubs.

With the County Farm Agents

SAUNDERS COUNTY.
Walter E. Roberts, Agent.
Wahoo, Neb., Dec. 17.—(Special.)—Farm agents have found that the three-year-old calf is the ideal method of raising calves. The calf is born when the calf is not over four months old and the member will feed and care for her until she is about a year old. The second year starts with the heifer about a year old and continues in proper feed and management for the best development possible during the first lactation period. During the third year's work it is necessary to weigh and test the milk. In addition to caring for the cow, following this method members will have a good idea of how properly to grow a calf and heifer, and how to secure maximum production of milk from a dairy cow. Any farmer who raises a calf between the ages of 18 and 18 years can join the Dairy Calf Club for the coming year. Help will be given in securing good heifer calves of any of the dairy breeds.

Western Nebraska seed potatoes have shown excellent results on the average in eastern Nebraska. Quite often the home grown seed is diseased and western or northern seed gives a much better yield.

The poultry school was very successful. Poultry raisers from nearly every part of the county met for the whole day to discuss the following: Breeds, housing, sanitation, feeding, breeding and incubation. The school will give the principal address. He will divide his time equally between the state and the national and international poultry shows, which will be held the third week in January, should be ready for the poultry show. Films are being secured from the department of agriculture to use during the week of the show.

MADISON COUNTY.
E. A. Stewart, Agent.
Battle Creek, Neb., Dec. 17.—(Special.)—Farm bureau meetings are being held nightly until December 22. Officers are elected and future plans discussed.

Each township is fixing a regular monthly meeting date and making the plans for work to be discussed at these meetings. No regular program will be adopted until committees have been organized. One of the most popular projects taken up seemed to be the three-year-old calf. This is to make a two-year-old calf in the same field and same corn. Similar tests are in place county this year showed that there were variations in yield of as much as 10 bushels per acre on seeds secured in the same neighborhood. The purpose of this project would be to standardize on a few varieties of high yielding corn for Madison county. This was done with kaured wheat by the Kansas station. Nebraska 60 wheat and Nebraska 21 oats at our own station and Hoven 27 at Michigan. These improved strains of grain have been shown to the growers because of the large yield per acre.

The portable picture machine is here and working every night. It takes a standard film. But two theaters have shown the first round as usually there is enough business with the 25 minutes of pictures to consume a full night. One film on tuberculosis in cattle has been shown in the other a diphtheria film. It is the intention of the farm bureau to use this machine for business purposes and showing reels covering the work planned and under way in the different townships as far as possible.

WASHINGTON COUNTY.
Burr, Neb., Dec. 17.—(Special.)—County agent has figured what the value of area tuberculosis eradication carried on in this county in the past two months adds to the elimination of future disease in the herds tested in prevention of tuberculosis in hogs and chickens, as well as

Cattle Owners Warned to Renew Official Brands

Five-Year Period of Registration Expires First of Year, Secretary of State Announces.

Lincoln, Dec. 17.—Renewal of cattle brands registered with the secretary of state must be made next year, the five-year period of registration closing January 1, 1922. Darinus M. Amsberry, secretary of state, announced. Those cattle owners who have individual brands registered with the state must renew registration next year to keep them in force, even if the brand was registered as late as December 30, this year, according to Mr. Amsberry.

Between 7,000 and 8,000 individual brands are registered with the secretary of state, it was stated, and this number does not represent all the brands in the state. A fee of \$1.50 for five-year "protection" is charged for registration, with a fee of 50 cents for renewal.

It is pointed out that the "protection" is not one afforded by the state, the state being an agency only as an official recorder. The registration is conducted and maintained by a cattle owners' association, working in conjunction with the stockyards at Omaha. An inspector is maintained at the stock yards to inspect the brands of all cattle that come to market. The inspector visits the secretary of state twice a year to check registered brands and obtain copies of new ones.

The purpose of the registration is to provide accurate price of cattle as the yards with brands that do not coincide with those of the owner selling the cattle, it is explained. For instance, if a load of cattle comes to market for sale and included in the load are two or three head with brands different from those registered by the party selling the stock, these cattle are singled out and unless the seller can show a bill of sale of the cattle in question, payment for these cattle is sent to the person who has that brand registered. In the event the seller was the rightful owner of the cattle, the one to whom the payment was sent in turn must send the money to the man who marketed the stock.

That the system is one of great saving to the members is indicated in the frequent number of cattle that often get to market with questionable sales records. On the other hand, it is stated, the occasions are numerous when membership would have saved the sale of cattle but no brands were registered for trace.

Grape Vines Easy Plants to Raise

Horticulturists of State College Give Directions for Home Gardener.

Lincoln, Dec. 17.—The grape vine is one of the easiest fruit plants upon which the amateur can experiment and propagate with success, horticulturists at the college of agriculture state. If the home gardener has a vacancy in a vineyard, the easiest and surest way is to leave a cane unpruned on a neighboring vine. Growth will do the rest.

"In the spring, lay the vine down and cover with three or four inches of loose dirt, that part which is in the place where the new vine is wanted," suggest the horticulturists. "The covered part will have produced a sufficient root growth to allow the parent cane to be cut away by the fall period. If several plants are desired, the entire cane may be covered with dirt, and a sharp spade and transplanted, according to these specialists. Cuttings usually are used for producing plants in this manner. For instance, this fall canes that grow during the year can be cut into lengths of two or three buds each, the cut at the lower bud being made one-half inch from the bud and a half inch at the upper bud, they explain.

The cuttings in bundles of 10 or 15 and bury in the garden with the butt ends up," continue the specialists. "The ends should be covered with three or four inches of dirt and when freezing weather comes on, they may either be placed in moist sand in a cool cave or left outdoors and mulched with straw or other litter. In the spring they should be planted in nursery rows six or eight inches apart, with rows two and one-half feet apart."

Nebraska Alfalfa Yield
Estimated at 2,828,757 Tons

Lincoln, Dec. 17.—An average yield of 2.26 tons of alfalfa per acre indicates a production of 2,828,757 tons in Nebraska this year, or 698,932 tons less than produced in 1920, according to reports of the state department of agriculture. The combined area of alfalfa given as 1,195,562 acres. The crop was worth \$19,810,299 on November 1, on a basis of \$7 per ton at that time, the report states.

Custer county reported 38,096 acres, the largest in the state. Scotts bluff county led in total production with 660,359 tons. Custer county also reported the largest acreage in 1920. Dodge county reported the highest yield of 3.2 tons per acre.

Dean of Nebraska College Outlines Work of Experts

Tells Scottsbluffs Farmers of Progress Made in Fighting Pests and Diseases During Last 34 Years.

Scottsbluff, Neb., Dec. 17.—To study problems of farm management, crop production and improvement of plant and animal diseases and similar problems as a guide to Nebraska farmers in increasing the profits of farm operations are, and have been, the functions of the agricultural experiment station, and that its endeavor has met with success by greatly reducing losses through experiments conducted over a period of 34 years, were contained in an address made before the Nebraska Potato Improvement convention here recently, by E. A. Burnett, dean of the Nebraska agricultural college, speaking of the activities and accomplishments of the agricultural experiment station.

The subjects Dean Burnett discussed briefly follow:

Black Leg.
"One of the earliest acts of the station was to study the disease of black leg among cattle and to distribute a vaccine that would practically control the disease. It was not uncommon to have 10 per cent of a range herd die from black leg before treatment of vaccination was begun. In recent years the loss is so small as to be almost negligible.

Hog Cholera.
"This disease in Nebraska has caused losses of between \$5,000,000 and \$10,000,000 a year. So successful has been the final result of serum treatment that today we have a serum that will protect animals in early stages of the attack, will prevent serious commercial loss. The use of serum during the present season has saved the farmers of Nebraska approximately \$1,000,000.

Powder Cholera.
"This disease is one of the principal studies at the station, a disease that is causing greater loss among poultry than any other. The treatment of the disease, increasing greatly the profits of the poultry man and supplement the profits of the farm.

Orchard.
"Parasitic and insect diseases upon plants are being studied and as a result of each study, practical methods of orchard management have been developed by spraying to control the Codling moth in apples, Curculio of plums and fungus diseases of the lead and tree which destroy the profits of the orchardist.

Potatoes.
"The industry in Nebraska, as in all other sections, is menaced by potato disease like wilt, potato scab, etc. To a large extent these are under control by use of sprays and especially the selection of seed that is free from disease and planting in disease-free fields.

Grasshoppers.
"The station has worked out certain methods of poisoning and gathering grasshoppers while small and destroying them. Poisoning seems at present to be the most practical way of eradication.

Corn.
"Ten varieties of corn were grown 15 years ago for periods of five years in each of the six leading corn growing counties of the state. The experiment developed that only a limited number of varieties are suited to any locality. Where varieties are introduced they should be from regions of similar rainfall and length of maturity and that the farmer should always select types of corn which leave a considerable margin between the ripening period and the frost line so that an abnormal season may not prevent maturity.

Cattle Feeding.
"Eighty-five per cent of the cattle fed 18 years ago were fattened upon corn and prairie hay. A recent survey showed that now less than 10 per cent of the cattle fattened for market are fed upon this ration alone. Experiment work has shown that corn and alfalfa makes an ideal ration for fattening cattle, and that protein concentrates can be added to the ration with profit only when such concentrates are relatively cheap. Some studies have been made to determine the economy of harvesting corn fields with sheep, swine or cattle. This method generally has given cheap gains.

Dairying.
"Tests have indicated that profit in dairying depends upon ration and production, that the use of small herds are generally kept at a loss and that labor expended on a dairy cow is only warranted where large production is obtained. The use of silage usually has been profitable.

Cow Testing.
"Increased production is obtained by good management, good selection and the use of dairy breeds. Cow testing associations show that in nearly every dairy herd extremely profitable animals were found along with those that do not pay the cost of food. The dairy herd at the experimental station consistently has produced at least four times the average production of the milk cows of the state."

Increase in Nebraska Oat Acreage Reported

Lincoln, Dec. 17.—An increase in the oats acreage in Nebraska is reported by the Department of Agriculture this year over that of last year, but a lower average yield overcame the increase in acreage. The production this year, as indicated in preliminary reports, will be 70,273,858 bushels, as compared with 83,037,162 bushels last year. With a total of 2,585,084 acres planted in 1921 as against 2,400,062 acres in

1920. Nebraska bid fair to produce the largest oat crop since 1917, but adverse weather conditions resulted in an average of 21.1 bushels, or 279 bushels per acre below the 10-year average, says the department. Cedar and Knox counties are the only two counties reporting more than 100,000 acres, the former with 103,171 acres and the latter with 101,116 acres, according to the department. An average yield of 38 bushels in Scotts bluff county was the highest yield per acre in the state, the department announces. Sewau county ranked second, with 35 bushels. Sixteen counties yielded 30 or more bushels per acre.

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