

REPORT OF
LINCOLN COUNTY
Economic Planning Conference



1947



LINCOLN COUNTY

Total Area 643,840 A.

Population 20,000

Major Industries Lumber,
Agriculture, Fishing

Average Annual Precipitation 75"

Length of Growing Season 200 days

Total No. Farms 963

Acreage in Farms 119,861 A.

Cropland Acreage 20,000 A.

Average Size Farm 124 A.

Average Cropland per Farm 24.3 A.

Farm Population 3,267

(Key to Land Areas)

- 1 Agricultural Land
- 2 Drainage Areas
- 3 Potential Range Area
- 4 Bench Lands, - Heavy Clearing Required
- 5 Forest Land, Interim Grazing Use
- 6 Forest Areas
- 7 Recreational Area

REPORT of 1947

LINCOLN COUNTY ECONOMIC PLANNING CONFERENCE

FOREWORD

Land is our most valuable resource. From it comes the new wealth that sustains our economy. From the homes on the land comes the new blood that sustains our cities. Planning the wise use of the land and the best methods of carrying on productive enterprise on the land to maintain and improve those homes and communities is the privilege and responsibility of each succeeding generation.

The Lincoln County agricultural planning conference of 1947 was held to exercise that privilege and responsibility. This conference was another step in the planned agricultural development that has characterized Lincoln County for many years. Similar sessions have been held periodically in the past, the last taking place in 1941.

The 1947 conference originated in a request by members of the county agricultural planning committee that the O.S.C. Extension Service cooperate in re-appraisal of agricultural conditions and outlook following the close of the war.

Six committees were established several months in advance of the general planning session. Sixty people, representing every section of the county, collected data and considered all available facts about their particular enterprise before preparing a report. Reports of these six committees were presented to the one-day county conference to which all farm people were invited, and this folder includes the reports as presented and adopted by that conference. They represent the considered judgment of active farmers and farm leaders counseling with the Extension Service specialists in the various fields. They are published here with the thought that they may serve as a guide to the trends that are probable and desirable in development of the farming industry and rural home life in the years immediately ahead.

James Bond
County Agent - General Secretary

Sources of Agricultural Income

Dairy Products	\$ 556,128
Livestock Products	230,843
Poultry Products	50,281
Farm Forest Products	49,593
Vegetables	17,836
Horticulture Specialties	16,354
Fruits and Nuts	10,755

LAND USE COMMITTEE REPORT

The county land use committee finished in 1944 a rather complete summary of land use classifications and problems for Lincoln county. The map on the preceding page shows the areas of the county and the uses designated under this plan. Factors entering into the classification of different areas are discussed in the committee's report for that year.

This current report will not attempt to cover all phases of the problem, but will add to and bring up to date the previous recommendations with emphasis on the most pressing of local land use problems.

FERTILITY -

The chief problem with our agricultural land is that of fertility. The committee recommends increased use of lime and phosphate and better means of saving all fertility produced on the farm through liquid manure tanks. Use of commercial nitrogen to establish better varieties of grasses and legumes on the poorer lands is recommended.

Local storage of large amounts of lime is needed to insure adequate amounts for use on farms during the year. Commercial establishments such as feed stores or cooperatives should be encouraged to provide this storage space.

Operators using lime and phosphate are encouraged to have tests of soil made before applying either material to insure its most efficient use.

IMPROVING BRUSH AND HILL PASTURES -

Adequate use of brush and hill land requires that better methods of burning, seeding and later control of regrowth be used. Burning should be done only with adequate protection for lands adjacent to the area to be burned. The following procedure is recommended:

- a. Burning can be most satisfactorily accomplished in the spring.
- b. Bulldozer firebreaks should be made between brush areas to be burned and areas to be protected. Usually natural firebreaks can be found to make up around 75% of the perimeter.
- c. Burning should be started late in the day, usually after 4 p.m., so as to have the best conditions for burning but with the cool of evening coming on to make later control easier.
- d. Start burning at the most dangerous point on the perimeter, usually along the prepared firebreak, or the uphill side, or the windward side. Better burns will be secured by burning from the uphill side and burning against the wind.
- e. Seed promptly after burning, usual varieties adapted to the area to be seeded.
- f. Graze as heavily as possible without destroying the grass stand to keep down brush and fern growth.
- g. If possible, control fern mechanically the first season.

USE OF LOGGED-OFF LANDS -

Areas clear cut for timber should be seeded to forage grasses, not only to provide forage but to suppress brush and hasten reforestation. Lands adjacent to farms can be especially useful for range purposes while a new timber crop is starting. The committee recommends the following procedure for establishing forage stands on slash areas:

- a. Timber should be harvested on staggered settings, leaving blocks of standing green timber between the blocks cut. This green timber will form a firebreak between the slashing areas to be burned and the operating areas, as well as blocks where young timber is growing. A seed source will also be provided by the standing timber.
- b. Blocks of standing timber left at the first operation should not be harvested until new growth on the harvested area has become far enough advanced to be fire resistant; usually a lapse of about 20 years. Cut-over areas in any one operation should be kept to a size of not to exceed 160 acres.

- c. Slash burning on areas clear cut should be done as soon as possible after the first good fall rain. Usually 2 to 3 inches of rain is necessary to wet the woods down well. Burning can be started as soon as the slash has dried sufficiently to burn, and while the woods are still wet.
- d. Fires should be started at the most dangerous part of the area, usually the uphill side. They should be started late in the day, when the slash is most inflammable. As soon as the main heat of the fire has passed, mopping up should be started around the edges.
- e. Seeding should be done immediately on the fresh ashes. Seeds sown in this way will sprout quickly and usually become well established before cold weather.
- f. Timber owners and operators should be encouraged to provide for such burning, seeding, and subsequent grazing of slash areas where forage can be utilized. If an owner cannot do this work himself, he could arrange to lease his cut over area to adjacent farm operators for a long enough period to justify the necessary expense of seed and fencing.
- g. Public agencies administering forest land and inspecting or supervising private forest operations are in the best position to actively promote this program of land use.

DRAINAGE

Study in connection with the 1944 land use report shows 3,700 acres of very fertile land to be in need of drainage improvement beyond the reach of individual operators. This land lies in five different sections, - on the Yaquina River, at Beaver Creek, on the lower Siletz River, lower Alsea River, and lower Salmon River.

Promotion work is being done on the Yaquina River project at Mill 4, and the committee recommends that further community efforts be devoted to getting this project under way.

The Salmon River section is the largest area of this type land in the county and the most easily drained. The committee recommends to the property owners in this area that they form a drainage district and attempt to enlist the aid of the army engineers in installing the necessary dikes and tide gates. It is further recommended to the urban residents of North Lincoln County that they cooperate in the activities necessary to improve this area for the benefits which would result to all citizens of that part of the county.

Improvement measures should be studied in the other communities concerned with this problem, with the view to initiating whatever measures might be practical to get this land into production.

Respectfully submitted

W. F. Wakefield, Eddyville, Chairman
F. E. Gilkey, Toledo
Chas. Hinshaw, Nashville
H. G. Hopkins, Waldport
J. C. Barclay, Alsea

Gust Ketola, Kernville
J. M. Reeder, Siletz
I. R. Payne, Seal Rock
Fred Scholl, Logsden
C. W. Williamson, Elk City

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FARM CROPS COMMITTEE REPORT

The farm crops committee wishes to make the following recommendations for improvement of field crops in Lincoln County.

IRRIGATION

Irrigation has proved its worth for pasture crops in this area. The committee believes the irrigated pasture acreage should be increased from the present 435 acres as rapidly as possible, and recommends to the county conservation association that practiced payments to help defray the first cost of sprinkler irrigation be used to help promote this practice.

GRASS SILAGE

Grass silage making is recommended to dairy feeders as the most practical method of getting more feed value per acre from our local soils. It is recognized that equipment expense for handling this operation is the greatest obstacle at present, and the committee recommends that producers form small cooperative groups for the purchase of the necessary machinery or that individuals contract with a possible custom operator to make it possible for him to buy the equipment with assurance of being able to make good use of it.

LEGUMES

The use of legumes in hay and pasture mixtures helps to conserve soil fertility and improves both the quality and amounts of forage produced. Red and alsike clover, Ladino clover, and vetches are effective forage legumes

and more use should be made also of subterranean clover in pasture seedings. Lotus major offers considerable promise on the lowlands, and more extensive field trials using it in grass mixtures on the bench and uplands should be established.

POTATOES

Difficulties encountered in controlling blight on potatoes indicate the acreage of this crop should be kept to the amount needed for home use. Local growers cannot produce good commercial potatoes, in competition with areas where the blight is not so severe, until better methods of blight control have been worked out.

GRAINS

Production of grain in this area usually is not practical, and the committee suggests that local farmers can produce more feed per acre as pasture on the available land and buy the necessary grain from other areas.

WEED CONTROL

Tansy ragwort and other noxious weeds are a threat to crop production in many areas of the county. The committee recommends to organizations and individuals in each community that the weed menace be closely watched and necessary action taken early enough to allow control without too great expense. It is further recommended that field trials on methods of control of tansy be continued, with the object of developing more effective control measures.

Respectfully submitted.

Andrew Kent, Waldport, Chairman
A. F. Barclay, Waldport
Verne Goodman, Alsea

H. R. Glascock, Eddyville
G. B. Twitchell, Logsdon
Andrew Immonen, Kernville

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LIVESTOCK COMMITTEE REPORT

The following recommendations are presented for consideration by livestock operators and other interested persons for the purpose of improving our county livestock enterprises:

PREDATORY ANIMAL CONTROL -

This problem is always present, but is not serious enough at present

to be a limiting factor in livestock projects. It is recommended to the wildlife service that two government hunters be employed in this area to keep predators under control.

RANGE FEED SUPPLIES -

- a. Large areas of potential livestock range are being allowed to grow up to brush because of inability to burn ahead of grass seeding under the present burning regulations. Livestock operators should be working toward more liberal burning regulations on private lands and, possibly, some type of group insurance plan that would reduce the financial risk of fires that might get out of control.

Fencing of range lands to make possible intensive use of forage and better control of brush is recognized as an effective practice for getting more good from range lands.

- b. Certain weeds, the most serious of which is tansy ragwort, are threatening the feed supplies on many pasture areas. It is recommended that a comprehensive program of control be undertaken in each community, through the formation of weed control districts wherever voluntary control is not effective

GOATS -

The goat population should be increased to the maximum number that can be used in holding back brush on range and pasture lands.

DISEASE CONTROL -

The present program of control of Bang's disease and tuberculosis is working effectively. More educational work on methods of control of parasites, foot rot, and other common livestock diseases is needed.

BREED IMPROVEMENT -

The need for better quality of livestock is recognized. The following points are recommended for consideration by livestock operators.

- a. Registered sires should be used in all livestock enterprises.
- b. Breeding stock for a beef enterprise should not be from dairy crosses.
- c. Purebreeds, with no crossing, are recommended for beef cattle in this area. Spectacular results from crossbreeding are obtained only under feed lot conditions.

- d. Crossbreeds of sheep using well adapted parent breeds, will produce better lambs, and are recommended.
- e Shearing of sheep and goats should be done in summer or early fall. Angoras may better be sheared twice annually.

Respectfully submitted.

Elmer Wing, Eddyville, Chairman
Joseph Kosydar, Jr., Siletz
Clyde M. Morris, Kernville

Don Kessi, Harlan
Calvert Jones, Harlan
W. P. McBee, Toledo

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DAIRY COMMITTEE REPORT

The dairy committee of the economic planning conference did not present a specific report at the time of the county conference meeting. Changes in committee personnel, and consequent inability of the committee to meet as a whole, resulted in this group serving more as a trouble-shooting body dealing with specific problems as they arose, rather than making a formal report.

The work of this committee, which remains on a year round active status, has included to date the following measures for the improvement of the local dairy enterprise.

DISEASE CONTROL

The committee has met with the county court and enforcement authorities as well as the county veterinarian, to try to improve the effectiveness of the Bang's disease and T.B. control program. A standard of sanitation for the conduct of testing work has been secured from the State Department of Agriculture.

As a result of legislation changing the disease control law in the 1946 legislature, it became necessary to secure petitions requesting the continuation of beef cattle testing to keep beef cattle under the program. The committee has undertaken to circulate these petitions to continue the test program on all Lincoln County cattle.

DAIRY MARKETING

A program of keeping supervised production cost records on a number of local dairies to secure better cost figures on the production of retail

milk has been initiated. This was undertaken to try to offset the unfavorable price relation between milk produced in Lincoln County and that produced in the northern coast counties and the Willamette Valley.

GENERAL PROBLEMS -

The need for more production testing, raising the quality of local dairy animals, and the possible advantages of an artificial insemination program for this area are recognized by the committee. Plans for improvement along these lines will be advanced as they are developed.

Membership of the county dairy committee is as follows:

I. R. Payne, Beavercreek, Chairman	W. P. McBee, Toledo
A. F. Barclay, Waldport	Jack Blain, Yachats
R. E. Gribble, Toledo	T. R. McClellan, Neotsu
E. E. Colvin, Siletz	

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HORTICULTURE COMMITTEE REPORT

The horticulture committee feels there are certain crops which could be satisfactorily developed in Lincoln County to add to the income from many smaller places and improve the general level of farm production. The following suggestions are made regarding crops that are grown and can be grown.

STRAWBERRY PLANTS -

There is a ready market for certified strawberry planting stock from this area. Around 100 acres of this crop in the county could be produced to good advantage.

Certain limits need to be considered by possible producers. This crop requires much land labor and a rather specialized knowledge of strawberry diseases. Land for plant production should be baited to control root weevil a year before planting, and plants used to start should be not less than Oregon Blue tag certified stock. Production costs will average around \$500 per acre. Fruit production should be considered incidental to raising plants, as the fruit produced is not of a high quality and will not compete with fruit produced in areas where less labor is required.

CANEberries -

A good local demand exists for production of small plantings of all types of caneberries. Fruit of this type produced here has good quality. The high labor requirement for proper care indicates these should be used as a sideline. Disease free planting stock of the best adapted varieties should be used.

HOLLY -

A good quality holly can be produced under our conditions. Present marketing methods require that large plantings be made, or that groups of producers combine for marketing purposes, to get volume enough to make carload shipments.

Varieties used must be early maturing and bear good quality leaves and berries. This crop requires about the same type soil as apples and will yield returns at the age of 8 - 10 years.

EASTER LILIES -

This crop can be grown satisfactorily here, though Lincoln County has no special advantages over other producing areas. It is recognized that markets are a limiting factor and can change rapidly in this enterprise. Prices dropped 50% from 1945 to 1946. Certification will be necessary in the future, to provide a standard product for market.

DAFFODILS -

Production of bulbs and cut flowers is a relatively stable enterprise, and considerable expansion by experienced operators appears justified.

MISCELLANEOUS BULB CROPS -

Iris, calla lily, gladiolus, and other bulbs for which market outlets can be located offer promise for this area. The committee recommends that growers of all crops of this type band together to establish standardization of their products to make the marketing job easier.

CUT FLOWERS -

Due to the long season that flowers can be produced here, there is opportunity for good returns from this enterprise. Specialized marketing methods, using air transport or refrigeration trucks, will have to be developed and will require united action of all producers interested in marketing this crop.

A good Portland market exists for sweet pea blossoms, and many other blooms can be profitably marketed in the central and eastern states.

TRUCK CROPS

Excellent quality vegetable crops, at seasons later than many areas, can be produced in the coast section. The committee believes several hundred acres could be devoted to the production of peas, lettuce, cabbage, cauliflower, carrots, and beets. Bulk marketing by truckload or carlot would be necessary to reduce transportation costs. This could be accomplished by the formation of cooperative hauling facilities and pickup stations by the producers.

DIGITALIS

Shutting off of imports of this product during the war resulted in an abnormally high market price. Imports are now reaching New York at a price less than the local material can be sold from Willamette Valley driers. The committee recommends production of digitalis only on areas where it will grow with little labor, and can be harvested if the market is favorable or left standing without loss if prices drop below harvesting costs. The committee estimates the long time price on this crop will average 3¢ per pound, or less, and that heavy commercial planting would depress the price even further.

CASCARA -

This crop offers an excellent prospect for continuous production, as there are no sizeable imports of it. Waste lands can be planted to cascara, for harvest within 5 to 8 years. The major difficulty is protection of the crop from thievery until it is mature enough to make the most efficient harvest.

Respectfully submitted,

A. Lisi, Newport, Chairman
K. W. Gray, Tidewater
Anna Grusing, Nashville
D. B. McMullen, Siletz
Ed Heinz, Newport

Eugene McKinley, Yachats
H. S. Pruner, Newport
Frank York, Waldport
Tom Renne, Waldport

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FARM HOME and RURAL LIFE COMMITTEE REPORT

Every rural family in Lincoln County is entitled to the finest possible family life that planning and effort can design. It must be a well-rounded life, providing the social and educational as well as the material necessities.

The home will remain the center of domestic life and interests, the place where the family finds encouragement and hope through a community of interests. The standard of this family life is entitled to greater emphasis than heretofore given. It should not be placed secondary to the actual business operations of family income, although the practice of improving farming methods must continue.

In this transition period from war to peace, the farm family can capitalize on the advantages of living on the farm and overcome some of its disadvantages. To do this, changes will be necessary. The Farm Home and Rural Life Committee has met to survey the situation and to discuss the necessary adjustments, and has made the following recommendations to be carried out in the next few years.

HOUSING -

Improvement in housing in Lincoln County is one of our most needed problems. On account of war conditions following a long depression, many farm houses are awaiting repairs, or renewal, and the installation of labor-saving equipment.

The 1940 census shows distribution of use of the following items in the county:

	<u>Rural Farm</u>	<u>Rural Non-Farm</u>
Electricity	29.9%	82 %
Running Water	49 %	78 %
Flush Toilet Facilities	21 %	60 %
Bath or Shower Facilities	25 %	55 %
Mechanical Refrigeration	85 %	25 6%
Fireproof Chimneys Total	70 %	

Relative to housing, the committee makes the following recommendations:

1. Assistance on house planning and remodeling be given farm families by the Extension Service at meetings, in printed form, and by other means.

2. That information be made available on installation of water systems, water heating units, bathroom fixtures, and septic tanks by furnishing basic plans on these installations to all rural families, and that approximate cost of typical installations be included so that more families will become interested in these improvements.
3. Electric lines be extended to all areas, and that the Extension Service furnish plans on safe home wiring and adequate home lighting to rural families who have power facilities.
4. Plans be made available for construction and operation of home freezer units, and that points for building and buying of these units be given in demonstrations when interest develops.
5. Families make full use of the modern facilities they have, for example, electricity and water. Money cost is often not in direct proportion to the benefits and satisfaction derived from use of labor saving methods, such as installing a hot water system in addition to cold water.
6. The Extension Service make available information on the latest developments in new methods and equipment through demonstrations on ~~selection~~, care, and use of household equipment.
7. Demonstrations or meetings be given on home beautification, emphasizing house furnishing and landscaping with extensive use of native shrubs. Cooperation of county organizations, such as garden clubs, should be secured in carrying out this recommendation.
8. Encouragement be given rural families on safety codes and fire prevention through safety contests conducted by rural organizations.

HEALTH -

The committee feels that the most important part of the health program is prevention of illness and accident and that the ideal statistics for hospitalization is 3.5 beds per 1,000 people, or approximately 50 beds for Lincoln County.

Reports from County Health Department show that of 1,294 children examined in the school nursing program in 1945-46, only 75 were free of medical recommendations. Twenty percent needed urgent dental care and ten percent needed special diet for health improvement.

The committee recommends that -

1. Demonstrations on good nutrition habits and vitamin requirements for preserving the health of family members be given.

2. The newest approved information on growing the home fruit and vegetable garden be available to every homemaker, and that the newest methods of food preparation for saving nutritive value of these foods be demonstrated. Also, that information be given on the accepted methods for canning, freezing, and storage of these foods.
3. Everyone take advantage of tuberculosis test and X Ray available through the Health Department's Mobile Unit.
4. The individual feel responsible for home safety improvement such as clearing up trash and making necessary repairs to prevent accidents, through inclusion of these activities with a group-sponsored safety contest.
5. Adequate supplies of pure water, both hot and cold, should be available in all homes in the county, for the maintenance of a good standard of health, and that families have the home water tested regularly. This is done by sending a sample to the State Board of Health at Salem.
6. First aid and home nursing class be made available, for interested groups, through such organizations as the Red Cross and Health Departments.
7. Dental checks for school children be continued and information on nutrition for their improvement be given.
8. The individual family carefully budget funds to allow for some form of health insurance, such as the Blue Cross, and that adequate hospitalization be provided in the county to the extent that there are 3.5 beds for 1,000 people. Probably this is more advisable for the northern section of the county where increased population has occurred in the last few years.

FAMILY LIFE -

At this time of unrest and increasing divorce the committee feels that a greater effort should be put forth to make the home a center of mutual interest to parents and children.

Therefore, the committee recommends that-

1. The family seek spiritual development in learning to work and play. (A fine example is the work done by the "Chapel by the Sea", where groups of all denominations from other areas may come and enjoy the spiritual advantages as well as supervised recreation.)

2. The young people should be better prepared for marriage, and that study groups be available for young adults, sponsored by Extension units throughout the area.
3. Youth centers organized and conducted by young people themselves be given adult support by all organized groups.
4. Party planning and recreation training meetings be held for leaders of youth and adult groups.
5. That automobile driving instruction classes be available to youth and adults through cooperation of schools and Oregon State Police. These are more necessary at present because of the increased accident rate.

YOUTH and 4-H CLUBS -

There are approximately 2,391 children between ages of 9 and 18 in the county. There were 427 boys and girls in 4-H clubs with a 62% completion record in 1945. 300 boys and girls are enrolled this year in Scout work.

With the present program these two organizations do not reach all youth in Lincoln County, therefore, the committee makes the following recommendations that-

1. Enrollment of youth in 4-H work be doubled.
2. Parents take the responsibility of familiarizing themselves with the 4-H project work, to the extent that they can encourage and assist their children, who are members, in a satisfactory completion of their projects.
3. Projects requiring scarce materials be revised to give each 4-H member an equal chance to complete.
4. There be leader training meetings for men and women in 4-H organization and subject matter. Also that there be a person in each section of the county familiar with the club program, who will give assistance to new leaders.
5. Club members be encouraged to participate in a sufficient variety of projects to assure the well rounded development of the individual club member.
6. Older youth be encouraged to act as assistant leaders, as an opportunity to develop initiative, responsibility, and training for leadership.

7. Clubs be organized in home communities, for boys and girls, as well as in the schools in near by towns. This applies particularly to clubs in gardening, livestock, home beautification, and other projects requiring home supervision.

Respectfully submitted -

Mrs. A. F. Barclay, Wildport, Chairman
Mrs. T. R. McClellan, Neotsu
Mrs. I. O. Niemi, Rose Lodge
Mrs. I. R. Payne, Seal Rock
Mrs. E. E. Holt, Seal Rock

Mrs. W. H. Osburn, Newport
Mrs. Albert White, Eddyville
Mrs. E. D. Butler, Kernville
Mrs. J. C. Barclay, Alsea
Mrs. J. Batchelder, Wecoma