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STATE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, SALEM, OREGON



Who and How Many This Year?

Story page 7

"Recruitment" Opened Again For Oregon Century Farms

EIGHT YEARS ago Oregon Historical Society and the Oregon Department of Agriculture launched jointly their CENTURY FARM program to honor the state's farmers whose productive lands have been in the same family for a hundred or more years.

The program was something new, something different. Happily, the sponsors were swamped with applications from farm families who wished to be enrolled and have their farm history placed in the records of the Historical Society.

That year 354 descendants of 232 Oregon farms of 1858 or earlier were enrolled. Subsequent programs in 1959 and 1960 increased the number of Century Farms to 416 in 16 counties. After that, the program was placed on a five-year interval.

The sponsors reopened the program for this year in January, with June 15 the closing date on which applications for 1965 Century Farm honors may be filed.

Applications should be mailed to the State Department of Agriculture, Salem, Oregon 97310, on forms the department will supply upon verbal or written request.

As in the previous enrollments, the climax to the Century Farm event will come during Oregon State Fair week. Howard Maple, manager, and the people of Oregon will celebrate the State Fair Centennial this year, August 29 through September 6.

Climax of the Century Farm program at the State Fair—instituted in the 1860's as an agricultural fair—is a "natural" for this big fall exhibition. Exact date for the Century Farm celebration at the fair will be announced later. At that time, each farm enrolled this year will receive the beautiful CENTURY FARM parchment designed by the Oregon Historical Society.

The sponsors believe the program this year will bring in farms from counties which did not have claimants in 1958, 1959 or 1960.

Sixteen of Oregon's 36 counties had Century Farms in those years, with only one county in eastern Oregon—Wasco—represented.

Other counties participating in the first three years of the program: Benton, Clackamas, Clatsop, Douglas, Coos, Jackson, Josephine, Lane, Linn, Marion, Multnomah, Polk, Tillamook, Washington and Yamhill.

Tillamook was the last of the 16 counties to show on the Century Farm rolls. It came in 1960 with a waterfront farm from which the first boat built in Oregon, the Morning Star, was launched. That was the donation land claim of W. N. Vaughan on Tillamook Bay.

In the prior enrollments, Marion with 75, Linn with 69 and Yamhill with 56 had the most Century Farms.

The Oregon Historical Society and State Department of Agriculture are hopeful that all farmers who can qualify will make application for the Century Farm honors this year.

"The nation is dependent upon the foods and fibers from our farms. With the numbers of farms growing smaller in recent years, it is a distinct honor to belong to a family which has kept its roots on the farm continuously for a century or more," says Director of Agriculture J. F. Short.

Persons who seek to qualify for Century Farm honors must meet these requirements established in the 1965 rules:

1. Your farm must have been operated continuously in the same family for one hundred years or more (since 1865). If the farm has ever been rented it will not qualify.

2. You must own the farm and must reside in Oregon.

3. You must live on the farm and farm the land or, if you live off the the historic farm, you must actively manage and direct the farming of the land.

4. The line of ownership from the original settler or buyer may be through children, brothers and sisters, nephews and nieces. Adopted children will be recognized equally with blood children.

5. Only one person—the 1965 owner of record—will receive the coveted Century Farm Award. If husband and wife own, the award will be made to them jointly.

6. A farm settled any time in the year 1865 (or earlier) will be eligible if it meets the other requirements.

7. Deadline for filing applications is June 15, 1965. All applications bearing postmark by midnight of that date will be considered.

8. Application must be on blanks provided by the Department, with all questions answered. The applicant may submit as much additional information as he or she desires. (All information will eventually be deposited with the Oregon Historical Society, which provides the beautiful Century Farm document.)

9. Print all names and addresses appearing on the application blank.

10. Applicants must submit with their completed application blanks a verification of their claims to continuous ownership. This may be in the form of the signature of one of your county commissioners or your county recorder on the form "A" which is supplied with the application blank.

11. No notary is required. Submission of supporting documents to substantiate the application is encouraged and will, if you wish, be filed with the Oregon Historical Society for preservation.

12. A farm (U.S. Census definition) must have 10 or more acres with crop or livestock sales of \$50 or more a year; or, if less than 10 acres, sales of at least \$250 a year.

Any farm in process of being sold to a non-relative is ineligible.

LEGISLATION

(From Page 6)

secretary of state control of predator funds; requested by secretary of state.

HB 1677—Amends predator control law; prohibits use of coyote getter.

Readers should bear in mind that the above is not the final status of these bills, except as indicated signed by the governor. Persons who wish to make their views known on any bill should contact their senator or representative.