

CFR 0267

Merle C. and Mertice B. Buchner



U.S. Census Definition of a Farm: 10 acres or more with agricultural sales of \$50 or more a year; or, if less than 10 acres, sales of at least \$250 a year.

APPLICATION FOR CENTURY FARM HONORS--1970  
(Rules attached)  
Deadline for filing application: July 1, 1970

PLEASE PRINT

Your name (Mr., Mrs., Miss) Merle C. Buchner and Mertice B. Buchner (Brothers)

Your address: Route #2 P.O. Box 491 Town Lebanon, Ore.

Location of farm: Same as above Linn  
(Address) (County)

Acres in your farm today: 246 Acres in original farm: 640.74

Does your farm comply with U.S. Census definition at top of page? Yes

Name of founder of farm (please print): Samuel Hardman and Mary Hardman

Year founder settled on farm? 1850 Where did he come from? Indiana

How many families have farmed this land? 4 generations.

Are any of original buildings still in use? No

Who farms land today? You? Yes A renter? Yes A manager? --- Other? ---

If you own the farm but live in town, do you manage the farming operation? ---

What relation are you to the original owner? Great Grandsons

If you know crops or livestock raised on farm 100 years ago, please list Wheat and Oats, Cattle, Horses, Hogs, Chickens

What do you raise on farm today? Grass Seed

How many generations live on the farm today? (Names) Self

Has the farm ever been rented? Part How many times has original farm been divided? Many

PLEASE list on separate page attached other historical facts you know about this farm.

Do you declare that the statements made above are accurate and correct to the best of your knowledge? yes

*Merle C. Buchner & Mertice B. Buchner*  
Signature of Owner



Submitted by: Merle Buchner Rt. 2, Box 491, Lebanon, Ore. 97355

(Name and Address)

My brother and I were born on this Donation Land Claim

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

on August 29, 1900. We have a sister five years older. We have lived our entire lives, except when away at school, on this same place.

Sameul Hardman and his wife, Mary, were our maternal great grandparents. Grandfather died in 1883 and Grandmother in 1914. We remember hearing our grandmother tell of conditions when they arrived in Oregon in the fall of 1850. They had left South Bend, Indiana in 1849, joining a small wagon train of thirteen wagons. They had horses to pull the wagon but led a cow the entire distance. She furnished milk for the children.

The family included two boys and two girls. They stopped at St. Joseph, Missouri for the first winter, then started out again in the spring of 1850. They arrived near Sodaville, Oregon, where they knew a family who had come across the preceding year. Grandmother didn't care for the hilly country around there, so her husband climbed on a horse and rode down into the valley. He met the Burkhart family northwest of Lebanon and decided to stake out a Claim next to them. Mr. Burkhart thought they should be close together so they could start a school. This was later established and known as the Burkhart School for a few years until the small town of Spicer was founded, following which it carried that name. This school was still operating until a few years ago when it was consolidated with Tallman and Tennessee, and now carries the latter name.

We can remember when we were youngstees, and grandmother used to tell us about conditions here when they arrived. At that time



Buchner Bros.

CERTIFIED TURF AND FORAGE GRASS SEEDS

RT. 2 - BOX 251

LEBANON, OREGON

97036

the whole prairie was covered with grass. This grew so tall that the youngsters had to go after the cows in the evening on horse-back to be able to find them. The Indians had burned the grass each fall so there were few trees. All the ash swales around now have grown up since those early times. Pollution! they had never heard the word!

There was an Indian trail a few yards from the Hardman cabin. The Indians from Scio/<sup>would go</sup> in a southwest direction to the Burial Grounds on the Calapoolia river. One time Grandmother looked up from her cooking and there in the doorway stood an extremely large buck Indian, looking at her. These Indians seemed quite friendly, so she wasn't too frightened.

There was a small stand of grub-oak trees about a mile from their cabin, the only oak trees within several miles. The Indians said that was where an old squaw had been bucked off her pony. She had been carrying a basket of acorns, and they were spilled.

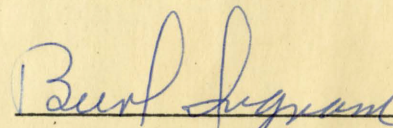
For the first few years, until mills were built closer, the people had to make horse and wagon trips to Oregon City each fall for provisions for the following winter. This took about a week. Even so, I sometimes envy them.



State Department of Agriculture  
Oregon Historical Society

CERTIFICATION OF OWNERSHIP OF CENTURY FARM

I hereby certify that the farm for which Merle C. Buchner and Mertice B  
Owner's name and address  
Buchner, Rt 2 Box 491, Lebanon, Oreis applying for Century Farm honors,  
has been in his family continuously for 100 or more years.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\*County Commissioner

Recorder

Date: June 30, 1970

\*Please strike office not applicable