

CFR 0742

Glenn W. Harvey

(Application missing)

Salem, OR
(Marion Co.)
Capital Press
(Cir. W. 28,299)

SEP 27 1985

Allen's P. C. B. Est. 1888

With beef improvement honor...

Harveys come out 'head of the herd'

By DAVE CHRISTY
For the Capital Press

PAISLEY, Ore. — Glenn and Mildred Harvey have come out at the head of the herd in the commercial cattle business.

The Paisley ranchers received the national Commercial Producer of the Year Award this year from the Beef Improvement Federation.

The Harveys started a production testing program in 1963 that has paid off. Steer yearling weights jumped from 725 pounds at the start to 980 pounds average for the last three years.

The only feed supplement used is a few blocks of Rumensin and the cattle only consume about a quarter-pound per head per day. The herd is mainly Hereford with a little Short-horn blood.

YEARLING CROP

Harveys raise calves and sell them as yearlings. The cattle run on Bureau of Land Management allotments for four to six weeks in the spring after wintering at the home ranch, moving from BLM land to Forest Service or Weyerhaeuser Co. ground.

They own some private pasture that is used to finish the yearlings and also rent some pasture in the Fort Klamath area. Grass hay is grown on meadows at the ranch and supplemental alfalfa is purchased to feed the weaner calves.

"We feed them good grass hay in the morning and in the evening feed them alfalfa," Harvey said.

Calving the 400 mother cows starts in mid-February and most are born over a two-month period.

In 1963 Harveys started weighing heifer calves at weaning in the fall and again in the spring, using those figures to help select replacement heifers. It's not a major factor, he said, but does give an idea of how they did during the summer.



COMMERCIAL HONOR — Glenn and Mildred Harvey, Paisley, Ore., raise 400 mother cows on commercial beef operation that netted award from Beef Improvement Federation as National Commercial Producer of the Year. (Photo by Dave Christy)

Different colored ear tags are used each year and heifers also are shoulder branded in case they lose

the ear tags.

Heifer weights are used to figure weights per day of age. In addition,

the heifers are graded. Lake County rancher Don Hotchkiss, as well as Lake County extension agents, has worked with them on the grading.

"From that we've evolved into tagging calves when they're born and recording birth dates," he said.

Production records are used when selecting bulls. "The heaviest weight per day of age is the kind we're looking for," he said, assuming there isn't some other problem, such as birthing difficulties.

The Harveys tried artificially inseminating heifers for the first time this year.

RANGE EDUCATION

Heifers are run with the rest of the cows. "I feel it's real important for the heifers to know the range before they get out there with calves to support," he said.

If a cow has a poor calf, her number is recorded. If she has two poor calves, she's sent down the road.

Medication has become more sophisticated through the years. "When I started, you vaccinated for blackleg and that was it," he said. Numerous other vaccines have been added through the years. Steers are given growth-promoting implants as calves, as weaners and as yearlings. Heifers destined for slaughter also get implanted.

The ranch has been designated a Century Farm and dates back to 1872 when William Harvey settled the place. He died when Glenn's father, also William Harvey, was 12. Glenn's maternal grandfather, Zed Harris, ran the ranch for a few years.

Glenn's father took over the ranch and then it passed to Glenn. The ranch started out as a homestead, but additional property has been added through the years.

Sheep were run on the ranch earlier, but cattle have been raised there as long as Glenn can remember.