

GOOSE MORTALITY IS BLAMED ON PESTICIDES IN RICE

Misuse of pesticides by rice farmers in Texas coastal areas has caused mortality of waterfowl and it is possible that to fish and humans as well, according to a Texas Department of Wildlife biologist.

"This threat could be removed by drilling the seed and carefully cleaning the seed before planting. During the soaking process, the toxic substances diffuse into the seed and, consequently, the seedling that grows from it is contaminated," he said.

Department biologists said the "seed" which was killed by high concentrations of pesticides was a chemical called dieldrin and is a chlorinated hydrocarbon pesticide which, along with a similar compound, dieldrin, is commonly used widely in rice seed preservation.

Dr. R. M. Robinson of the Texas A&M Department of Veterinary Pathology said in a report to the Parks and Wildlife Department that brain samples taken from the dead geese contained 40 parts per million (ppm) of dieldrin. This is, in Dr. Robinson's words, "exceedingly high," as only 1 ppm is considered lethal. These findings are not new to many biologists who have suspected that pesticides are responsible for decline of several waterfowl species.

"The dieldrin is a powerful neurotoxic tree which is a soluble example of a species which has all but disappeared from the rice fields and brown pelicans," Dr. Robinson pointed out that the manner in which the dieldrin-treated seed is planted determines its potential hazard to waterfowl.

"The usual practice in rice planting is to drill the seed in dry fields and then flood them for germination. However, some planters flood the fields first and then drill the seed in the flooded fields, which makes the highly toxic seed readily available to the birds," Dr. Robinson said.

He also warned of another

Sheridan Girls Win First In District



The Sheridan Junior High School girls' basketball team completed their 7-7 season with a 4-2 record in district play which put them in first place. Schools the team competed against in district play were Elmer, Schulenburg, Garwood, and Flatonia.

Members of the team pictured are: Bottom row, left to right: Connie Crow, manager, Kathy Lloyd, Diane Bennett, Virginia Garza, Linda Sheridan, Silvia Briscoe, Pam De La Cruz, second row: Debbie Leher, Debbie McCarney, Robin Teach, Patti New, Diane Ross, Jerry Lloyd, third row: Eileen Briscoe, manager, Hope Moore, Tammy Walker, Vickie Hines, Carol Botard, Ann Duncan, Bernadine Smith, Mary Mathews, and Coach Annette Tice.

Team members receiving the Outstanding Player Awards for the 7-7 season were Carol Botard and Tammy Walker. Carol Botard, outstanding forward, averaging 12 points a game led the team in points scored this season. Outstanding guard, Tammy Walker, led the team in rebounds and interceptions.

The Sheridan Raiders boys' basketball team ended their season with 7 wins, and 5 losses. For league play, they had 5 wins and 3 losses, which was good enough for second place. They were entered in two tournaments and placed in both of them. In the Schulenburg tournament they took consolation, and in the Elmer tournament they won second. This is the best season that the Sheridan Raiders have had.

The Sheridan Raiders -- first row, l. to r., Thomas Glover, Ivan Kichelov, Daniel New, Jack Shaw, John Grammer, and Leland Williams; second row, l. to r., Leland Hagendorf, Clark Peterson, Wayne Briscoe, Steve Grammer, and Tommy Garza; third row, l. to r., Coach James Moore, Fred Jones, Wesley Duncan, Ronald Glover, Dan Paschall, and manager Michael Axel.

The top three in the running for the outstanding defensive player trophy of the basketball boys for the Sheridan Raiders were: first place, Steve Grammer; second place, Ronald Glover; and third place, Dan Paschall.

Two problems in waterfowl management -- the "short-stopping" of ducks and geese at mid-continent, and the setting of Texas waterfowl seasons -- have been promised "new policy" thinking at the federal level.

Migratory birds will be encouraged to continue south and Texas hunters may also be handed seasons starting later in 1972 but ending 10 days to two weeks later in 1973, said Texas Parks and Wildlife Executive Director James U. Cross.

Cross said that he was pledged the new courses of action on the controversial issues during a Washington, D.C. meeting last week with National P. Reed, Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Fish and Wildlife and Parks.

Cross reported, "New ideas will be used to determine the answers. In the past, decisions of migratory bird management have been made on the basis of what was done the year before. Mr. Reed has promised to look at the situation, not at precedent."

The new policy, Cross explained, will require that migratory birds do not lose those instincts to continue south to the traditional Louisiana and Texas Gulf Coast wintering grounds. The Parks and Wildlife Department will be working with the U.S. Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife on the waterfowl problem in Texas.

date could possibly be around Nov. 25, the closing of the season "around Jan. 25 or so, or as late as Feb. 1." Meetings of the first Central Flyway Council and the National Flyway Council which represents all states as well as hunter and conservation groups, will determine recommendations for hunting laws which the U.S. Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife (DOW) will use to issue orders opening and closing dates for states' migratory bird seasons.

The Washington meeting Feb. 9 was arranged through the assistance of John Parker of Lufkin, former state chairman for Ducks Unlimited and presently a national trustee of that group which fosters perpetuation of the American migratory waterfowl. Parker has also been instrumental in other means of focusing attention on the waterfowl problem in Texas.

Up-to-date information on the laws affecting the Texas waterfowl are now available from license dealers across the state, according to Texas Parks and Wildlife Department officials.

The Texas Sports Fishing Guide for 1971-72 contains licensing requirements, fresh water regulations, county listings, lake laws, laws concerning minnows, saltwater regulations, laws concerning tropical fish and laws concerning other protected species. Regulations for commercial fishing, shrimping, netting and other commercial activities related to fish are included in another publication, the "Texas Commercial Fishing Guide," now being prepared.

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1971 Deer Kill Estimate Is 4,953

Wildlife Biologist Bob Carroll said last week that 4,953 deer were killed in Colorado County during the past season.

Of the total, 2,735 or 55 percent were antelope and 2,218 or 45 percent were bucks. Carroll said this was about the ratio that biologists had hoped for.

"Another couple of years like this and I think we'll be seeing more bucks and more good bucks," Carroll said.

Carroll said that the 4,953 deer were killed during the season and that 42.7 percent of the permits were used.

Colorado County Citizens.

CPL Joins Research on Shrimp Farming

Central Power and Light Company, Ralston Purina Company and the Texas Agricultural Extension Service of Texas A&M University today announced plans for a research project to study commercial shrimp farming at CPL's new power plant site near Flour Bluff.

The joint agreement, which has been under consideration for some time, was signed in Corpus Christi last week by representatives of the three organizations. CPL President Barney M. Davis said.

Work is expected to begin within the next two weeks on construction of a series of ponds which will be located on the northeast corner of the power plant site, adjacent to the Laguna Madre. Actual operation of the project is expected in mid-May, when the ponds will be stocked with shrimp, Davis said.

OLD TIMERS BASEBALL BARBECUE

The 3rd annual Old Timers Baseball Association barbecue will be held on Sunday, March 12, at 1:30 P.M., at Bissell's Place on Alternate Hwy. 90 between Hallettsville and Silver. Women are invited. The meal will be served at 4:30 P.M.

More than 50 old-time baseball stars from this area of 177 counties will be installed into the Old Timers Baseball Hall of Fame. Other selections will be made each year.

Public School Week Set March 6-10

There have been many developments in education since the Public Schools were established in Texas one hundred and eighteen years ago. The celebration of Texas Public Schools Week points this out.

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2 Hospitalized When Car Hits Train On 90A

Two persons were hospitalized and six others had less serious injuries when the car in which they were riding was in collision with a Southern Pacific train at the new crossing on Highway 90A between the river bridge and Altair, seven miles west of Eagle Lake at 10:55 a.m. Sunday morning.

The eight persons were in a car driven west on 90A by Leon Bratcher of Houston. The driver apparently failed to see the train which was crossing the highway to pick up a load of gravel on the south side of the highway.

James Montgomery and Ronnie Robinson were admitted to the Eagle Lake Community Hospital with multiple injuries and cuts. Others in the car escaped with cuts and bruises. The car was heavily damaged.

Three boys and five girls were in the car at the time of the crash and the patrolmen, three of the girls were from El Campo, the two others from Eagle Lake.

COMMUTERS LEAGUE

Ernie Sommerlatte's 181-529 series and Stolee Wallace 184-504 led individual scoring in the Commuters League last Thursday. The Comets posted 2045 team series and the Bugloos a 748 game. Linda Anderson had the league with 390 points. Pabst is second with 382 1/2. Oak Knoll is third with 369 1/2.

SKULL CREEK MIXED

The Wolly Boogers topped the Skull Creek Mixed League Feb. 22 with a 818-5297 series. Dr. W. Knapp had top series of 227-556. Billy David had a 195-500 series and a 191-507.

The Wolly Boogers had the league with 63 wins; the Untamed are second with 58 and Floyd's Barber Shop third with 47.

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Gigi, Laurelea On 1st All-Dist. Cage Teams

Wilma, Debra Place on 2nd

Five Rice High School Raider girls basketball players placed on the first, second and honorable mention all district lists which were selected by coaches from the Class 3A and 4A district on Thursday morning of last week.

Reported the girls' forward and Laurelea Turner, guard on the district champion Rice Raider team, won first place berth. Wilma Tillman, the Angleton girls' forward, placed on the second all-district team. Debra Frenzel placed on the second all-district team. Wilma Tillman, the Angleton girls' forward, placed on the second all-district team. Debra Frenzel placed on the second all-district team.

Veronica Watkins Entertains JV Cagers

Veronica Watkins entertained several of her junior varsity basketball teammates on Monday evening with a delicious Mexican dinner. Several were beef enchiladas, homemade chili, tacos, Mexican coffee slaw, fresh strawberry lemon tart, and lemon cake.

3 Charged With Water Pollution

A charge of water pollution was filed in county court this week by Game Warden Leo Kohlert as the result of an illegal drilling pit leaking chemicals into a stream in the northern portion of the county. Charged in the case are Jack Hinkle, Robert Weeks, and Marion Olive.

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Raider Nine Opens Play In West Columbia Tourney

Host Columbus Jeff Frnka Repeats On All-Dist. Cage Team

The Rice High School Raiders' basketball team will open the West Columbia baseball tournament. The Raiders will play their first home game of the season next Tuesday, March 7, when they host the Columbus Cardinals in a double-header beginning at 5:00 p.m. at Rice High School.

Coach Jack Grammer's team will open play in the tournament at 5:00 p.m. meeting Edna in the first round of action. If the Raiders win they play the winner of Angleton and Bay City at 9 p.m. Friday, and if they lose they play the loser of the Angleton and Bay City game at 9 a.m. Saturday. The finals in the tournament will be held on Saturday night. Other teams include the host West Columbia Cardinals, Dallas, 6-1 senior; Sweeny and Pearland.

Coach Grammer lists the following tentative starting line-up for the West Columbia game: Darrell Guiney at catcher; Jeff Frnka, pitcher; Oris Mason, first; Robert Criswell, second; Edna Polach, third; Bruce Polach, shortstop; and Felder Mike Grigar, Ruben Salinas, Billy Meitzner or John Moore, other pitchers are: Bruce Polach, Oris Mason and Russell Williams. Howard Lippert, who is at the Houston Livestock Show this week, also see action, behind the plate.

Golf Team In Edna Tour.

The Rice High School golf team will compete in a tournament in Edna this Friday, March 3, according to Coach Edna Dixon.

Only five Raiders are on the team and all will play in Edna Friday. They are: Coy Roney, Charles Briscoe, Jeff Seasholtz, Robert Olvera and Larry Broesch.

March 10th the Raiders will compete in Sealy, March 11th in Columbus.

District competition will be held in Sealy April 10, 11, and 12th.

Revival at Second Baptist Ch. Underway

The public is cordially invited to attend revival services at the Second Baptist Mission, 211 S. McCarty in Eagle Lake beginning Wednesday, March 1 and ending Sunday, March 5.

"Come and hear God's message for times like these," said Rev. L. R. Dunn, pastor. Second Baptist Mission is

NOTICE Special Hours FOR SERVICE

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