RICE HARVEST MONTH

Think Rice - Eat More Rice

U.S. Rice Production In '79 Was A Record

Total United States rice production in 1979 was a record 136,667,000 cwt. (1 cwt. equals 100 pounds), harvested from almost 3 million acres in Arkansas, California, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri and Texas.

Arkansas led the nation in total production with 49,157,000 cwt. produced from 1,130,000 acres harvested. California had excellent yields which moved it into second place in terms of production while ranking fourth in terms of area harvested. California's production of short and medium grain rice combined to total 33,669,000 cwt. from 522,000 acres. Texas ranked second in acres harvested with 557,000, and ranked third in total production with 23,481,000 cwt.

Louisiana ranked fourth in total production of 20,643,000 cwt. while ranking third in area harvested with 528,000 acres. Mississippi continued its expansion of rice production with 207,000 acres harvested yielding 8,384,000 cwt. of rough rice. Missouri also continues to expand its acreage with 35,000 acres harvested, producing 1,333,000 cwt.

The 1979 rice crop only increased by roughly 3,500,000 cwt. with long and short grain production remaining about equal but medium grain production (primarily in California) increasing by over 4,000,000 cwt.

Rice Used In Unusual Uses

Because of its form, rice probably has been used in more unusual and varied ways than any other grain.

Throwing rice at weddings began in ancient times as a fertility prayer and was only the beginning of using rice for something other than eating.

Mankind has found superstitious, medicinal and abrasive uses of rice. At one time it was thought that rice grains placed on an Arab's roof protected those underneath from misfortune.

An ancient Chinese remedy for aching bones, runny noses and stomach aches called for toasted brown rice and chopped ginger root cooked in whiskey. These ingredients were tied in a handkerchief to rub on aching bones or to inhale the hot ginger essence.

A handful of rice swished inside a violin collects dust from crevices and mothers once were told to shake a few grains in baby bottles to make them shine.

Rice water has been prescribed for high fevers, and rice cakes fried in camel fat were used for reducing swelling. Rice flour was recommended as a dentifrice, rice stalks for biliousness and hull ash for treatment of wounds.

In high humidity climates, a common practice is to place rice grains in sugar and salt shakers to prevent lumping. In South America, one often encounters a milk shake which has rice flour as the basic thickening.

So, rice has often been used during man's recorded history for many purposes other than good eating. It makes one wonder what unrecorded purposes rice has served around the world during this time.

Teaching The Fun Way—With Rice

There are more than 50 million women in the United States with jobs outside the home. A large percentage of these working women have at least one child under six being cared for outside the home.

This young, impressionable audience—children in daycare centers—is extremely important to the rice industry in the long term, since lifelong eating habits are formed in these early years. As a follow-up resulting from the positive response the Council received from pre-school educators concerning its publication, "Teaching the Fun Way—With Rice," 32,000 members of the National Association for the Education of Young Children received this publication by mail earlier this year.

The response from the mailing has been extremely satisfactory and many day-care centers throughout the United States have written the Rice Council praising the usefulness of this publication and requesting additional copies for their daycare educators.

Council Purchases Firemen's Insurance, Workman's Comp.

Special Meet Next Tuesday On Retirement Plan, Paving Bids

[By Jeff Fruin]

The Eagle Lake city council will hold a special meeting on Tuesday of next week (Aug. 5th) at 7:30 p.m. in the Municipal Building to open sealed bids for the 1980 street paving program. The city will also take final action on a retirement plan for city employees.

The paving project will consist of some blade laid Type CC cold mix, some base work, some base asphalt surface treatment and some sealcoating.

Last summer Schwabe and Mikes Construction of Shiner entered the low bid for street paving. Its bid, which was considerably lower than the others entered, allowed the city to do a considerable more amount of work than anticipated.

Bids are entered on a per unit basis and the amount of total work is determined by dividing that figure into the total amount of funds in the city budget earmarked for the project.

Besides the Shiner firm, others to enter bids last summer were Dean and Keng Paving of Giddings, Faltisek Paving Co. of El Campo and Eilers Construction of Schulenburg.

Special Meeting Tues. Nite

The council held the first of two special meetings on Tuesday night of this week and purchased a firemen's insurance policy and a workman's compensation policy to cover city firemen and employees.

Four fire policies were presented to the council at its regular session held last Tuesday, July 22, with Robert Griffith of Eagle Lake and Strickland Insurance Agency, the only insurance representative present. Fire Chief L. J. "Sonny" Spanihel and department secretary Melvin Stanzik were other interested parties present at the meeting.

Purchase Insurance

Volunteer Firemen Services Association (VFSA) insurance, presented by W. M. Thomas, Jr., was approved by the council after considering a total of five policies.

It was the recommendation of a special insurance committee appointed by Mayor Elmer Struss last week, to adopt the VFSA policy. The committee included councilman Roy Dean Van Nort as chairman, councilman Ralph Truly, fire chief L. J. Spanihel and city manager Bob Klockman.

The premium payment for the policy is $2,204 and the benefits include $50,000 for accidental death and dismemberment, $25,000 for medical payments, $200 weekly income for 206 weeks, $50,000 lump sum for permanent disability and other benefits for heart diseases, pneumonia and infections resulting from an accident. Benefits for the ladies "auxiliary" of the fire department are also included.

Other policies considered were: two by Eagle Lake and Strickland Insurance Agency, a Hartford policy with a $2,359 premium and a St. Paul policy from Anderson-Allen Assurance with a $2,026 premium; and a Travelers Insurance Co. policy presented by the Thomas agency with a $1,079.81 premium.

Benefits offered by the policies varied, but it was the recomtiendation of the committee to take the VFSA since it "offered the best coverage at a reasonable amount of money and was designed specifically for fire departments."

Workman's Compensation

The council also accepted a workman's compensation policy which was a Hartford plan offered by the Griffith agency at an estimated cost of $7,748 per year. The Texas Municipal League (TML) offered the only other policy.

A fireman's accident rider was attached to the policy which amounts to an additional $109 payment by the city a year, making total payment $7,857. The additional accident coverage for firemen will, along with the firemen's insurance, give firemen "almost double coverage" in case of an accident.

The TML policy called for a yearly payment of $7,280.46, about $500 less than the Hartford plan, but it was the recommendation of the insurance committee to go with Hartford because of the "convenience and desire of doing business in the city."

Prussic Acid Poisoning In Drought Stressed Sorghum

[By Leroy J. Hajdik
County Extension Agent]

The danger of cattle dying from prussic acid poisoning while grazing on drouth stressed sorghum type plants is very present at this time. Plants that may produce prussic acid include Johnsongrass, Sudan grasses, grain sorghum, sorghum alum, and all of the hay grazer type forages.

The poison is produced in a plant when it is in a stressed or wilted stage. The poison comes and goes within the plant. The danger of poisoning can exist for 5 to 7 days after the plant resumes growth following effective rainfall.

The material is so toxic that only one mouthful of forage containing toxic levels of the prussic acid can kill an animal. Death is rapid.

When turning cattle onto a field that has plants present that can produce prussic acid it is recommended that you turn in only a few head first and watch them graze for 30 minutes. If everything looks OK after that time, one may turn in the remainder of the herd. The threat of poisoning can still arise later during the day as the plants begin to wilt from the heat and moisture stress.

Contact Veterinarian

In the event you find an animal down and you suspect poisoning, contact a veterinarian immediately as it is very possible that others will be in the state of becoming poisoned also. You may not be able to save the first animals that are knocked down by the poison but professional help can save many of the animals that were affected for a shorter length of time. While waiting for the vet slowly run the balance of the non-affected herd out of the field onto native grass or bermuda pastures. Feeding some hay will be beneficial. Don't excite the cattle during the removal process.

With cattle worth what they are today, it could be an expensive gamble grazing on prussic acid producing plants. Weigh carefully the value of the grazing versus the value of lost cattle before making the decision to graze such pastures.

Abduction

(Continued from Page One)

of FM 102 and 139-16 at Alleyton. At that spot, the man rolled up the windows and told Scott to get out. He did so and the man locked the doors to the truck and threw the keys into grass in a pasture and started walking toward Columbus. Scott later found the keys and returned to the rice field and was accompanied by Gertson to Eagle Lake where officers were notified of the abduction.

The sheriff's deputies investigating reported that 10 rounds of .38 caliber ammunition were taken from the pickup.

Officers searched the area around Alleyton with no results. Jim Whitcomb of Columbus was contacted to search the area from the air and he and Allan Hill of Columbus searched the area in Mr. Hill's plane until dark. In the meantime, the first vehicle which was hi-jacked in Houston was located on a dirt road off Beckendorf Road in Austin County.

At 8:45 p.m. Whitcomb and Hill landed at the Columbus Airport and when they were leaving the airport in their vehicle, they observed the subject who was being sought on Highway 71 near the airport entrance. Whitcomb reported this to the sheriff's office and officers converged on the area and arrested Clarence McFarlin, Jr., 18 years of age, from San Antonio. A .357 pistol was found in the subject's possession. McFarlin was charged with aggravated kidnapping and released to Austin County officers for disposition.

Colorado County did not file charges on McFarlin since the abductions took place in Harris and Austin counties.

Sheriff George (Doc) Mueller expressed thanks to Mr. Whitcomb and Mr. Hill for their assistance in searching for and locating the subject.

Tires, Wheels Stolen From Abel Trucking

Ken Abel, owner of a trucking company south of Eagle Lake, reported to the County Sheriff's office at 5:30 p.m. Thurs., July 24th that fifteen trailer tires and wheels were stolen from his shop on Strickland Lane.

Investigation revealed that entry was gained to the shop by removing a bolt pin which secures a back door. When the burglars left the area, the pin was replaced in the door.

Abel estimated the value of the tires and wheels at $5,000. Investigation of the case continues.

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Eagle Lake Chamber of Commerce

Alleyton Man Charged For Shots At Wife

A black Alleyton man is charged with assault with intent to commit murder after firing two shots at his wife at 11:55 a.m. on Wed., July 23rd.

Debra Toliver of Alleyton reported to the Sheriff's Department that her husband, Floyd Toliver, had shot at her twice with a pistol, missing both times. Investigation by the sheriff's department revealed that the Tolivers are separated and have been having problems for some time. Toliver reportedly shot at his wife when she was walking to her home from the postoffice in Alleyton. She was not injured.

Toliver, who lives in Columbus, is 24. He is out of jail on a $10,000 bond set by Justice of the Peace Richard C. Schmidt on the charge of assault with intent to commit murder. The case will be presented to the grand jury in September.

Texas FB Ins. Seeks To Collect Premium

A civil suit was filed in District Court at Columbus July 24th by the Texas Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Co. against Thompson Flyers, Inc. and Leonard Thompson, individually.

The petition alleges that on May 3, 1979, the defendant purchased comprehensive auto insurance policies for a reasonable sum but reportedly a total of $1,231 in premiums is due and unpaid. The plaintiff asks judgment for that amount plus interest and costs of court.

John Parham Is Graduate Of Hous. Police Academy

Officer John H. Parham, formerly of Sheridan, and now a resident of Katy, is a recent graduate of the Houston Police Academy.

Officer Parham is a graduate of Sheridan High School and the University of Houston.

His parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Parham, reside in Sheridan. He is married and the father of two children.

Agricultural Observations

From
TEXAS A&M RESEARCH SITE
EAGLE LAKE

Date	Air Temp 2/		Soil Temp 4-Inch		Evap	Rain
Jul	Max	Min	Max	Min	(ins)	(ins)
22	96	75	90	82	.180	0.01
23	99	73	98	82	.324	
24	101	72	100	84	.364	
25	100	73	102	85	.296	
26	97	74	101	86	.328	
27	95	76	97	87	.322	
28	92	72	88	87	.196	0.35

Scattered daytime thundershowers may continue through the rest of the week across the Coastal Plains. The cool front that helped set off showers Monday is gone now, but the heating of moist air over the region should yield afternoon thundershowers. Rainfall effectiveness may not be so good since the majority of rain amounts should average under one-half inch. The heavier one and two-inch amounts along storm centers should be much more randomly distributed.

For the Western Rice Belt and Coastal Bend... Effectiveness of Monday's lighter rainfall could be low due to the moderate drying potentials expected Tuesday and Wednesday. Chemical defoliant spraying and cotton picking still face a daily risk of rain interference. The carbonate defoliants give faster action under dry soil conditions but are more rain-sensitive than organo-phosphate defoliants. Showers will not be organized, so all areas have about the same hit or miss chance. Harvest start-up times will be variable because of patchy local dew. Most defoliated cotton fields, not hit by recent showers, should reach harvestable lint moisture between 10 and 11 a.m.

Frozen carrots and broccoli are increasing in popularity. According to a U.S. Dept. of Agriculture report, we ate 21 percent and 18 percent more of each between 1970 and 1977.

hats off

to the American rice industry!

Rice Harvest Month is the time for special recognition of a business which contributes greatly to the economy of our state. Support the efforts of this industry—dedicated to the promotion of a high quality product throughout the nation and around the world. Eat more rice . . .

Congratulations & Best Wishes For Another Successful Year!!

The First National Bank
"The Bank That Backs The Farmer"
Member F.D.I.C. - Eagle Lake, Texas
Accounts Insured to $100,000.00

HAVE A RICE DAY

Rice Council's Middle East Programs Show Progress

U.S. rice exports to the Middle East have made significant progress during the last twenty year period.

In 1958/59 the United States exported 24,275 metric tons to the Middle East. Twenty years later, U.S. exports reached 877,088 metric tons.

Despite the Camp David Agreements and their negative effect on the Arabic media, the Rice Council's promotional message was placed in the editorial sections of ten different publications. These publications were distributed to consumers in Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, United Arab Emerates, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and other countries in the Arab world.

Rice Industry Movie

The U.S. rice industry movie "American Rice – Food for the World" was shown on TV stations in Dubai, North Yemen and Jordan. Several institutions and domestic teachers and their students had an opportunity to see this color film. Several million viewers saw and heard the story of American-quality rice during the past year although documentation of the exact number of viewers is impossible.

The Council also continued to maintain close cooperation with the Middle East rice trade. The primary objective in dealing with the Middle East trade is to assure the rice buyer of U.S. quality and U.S. reliability as a supplier.

In 1981, the Rice Council, through its public relations agency, plans to expand promotional and market development efforts in the Middle East.

Hopefully, a trade team representing the government purchasing agency in Syria will accept a Rice Council invitation to visit the U.S. rice-growing area. An invitation to visit the U.S. has also been issued to the official rice purchasing agency of Iraq. Fifty thousand booklets have been printed in Arabic for students and teachers of domestic science and other consumers.

Also, plans include a strengthening of the press service to editors to achieve editorial space in more publications.

BUDGET PROBLEMS?

Rice can stretch food dollars. Combine it with more expensive foods to extend dishes for more servings. Be efficient. Without loss of nutrition, rice relieves the strain on grocery budgets, provides variety. Fight inflation. Serve rice and save!

Eat More Rice.

SUPPORT YOUR RICE INDUSTRY

El Campo Production Credit Assn.

Home Office: El Campo Branch: Eagle Lake
Gary Grant, Eagle Lake Office Mgr.
Town & Country Center - 234-2264

GARWOOD AND NADA COMMUNITY NEWS

MRS. J. F. STRUSKA - 758-3352

Magr. Ben Popp of San Antonio, Sister Adelaide and Sister Anna Marie of Shiner visited with Mr. and Mrs. Gus Swoboda last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Donald Huvar and children of Freeport visited Mr. and Mrs. Gus Swoboda last weekend.

Allison Erekson, who had spent a week with her grandparents, returned to her home in Houston.

Mr. and Mrs. John Struska, Jack Allen and Ben and Mrs. Dean Martin and daughter Misty Mishell visited Mrs. Ela Struska Sunday. Dana Struska, who had spent a week with her grandmother, returned home with them.

Birthday Dinner

Mrs. C. P. Hopkins and Mrs. Marion Bennett were visitors in La Grange last Monday. They attended a birthday dinner given by Ellen Batelle honoring her mother, Mrs. Ralph Martin, on her birthday.

Chris Wied of Houston visited his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Wied, last weekend.

Mrs. R. W. Schroeder of Mission is visiting her mother, Mrs. Lillie Herron, and her sister's family, Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Stallman and children.

Home From Hospital

Glad to hear that Miss Sadie Abell is at home and doing much better after being in Southwest Memorial Hospital in Houston for several days.

Mrs. Troy Krenek visited in Burton last weekend with Mr. and Mrs. Harry Brisco and Justin.

Timmy Rees of Houston visited Mr. and Mrs. Boyd Rees last weekend.

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Seele and sons, Bryan and Kyle, of Houston were guests of Mrs. R. B. Shaw last Saturday.

Lester Bunge Honored

Lester Bunge was honored on his birthday with a barbecue dinner at their bayhouse at Port Alto.

Those attending were: Mr. and Mrs. Carl Halla of Houston; Lester Bunge of El Campo; and Oscar Bunge of Garwood. Other guests included Alexis, Loris and Lada Bunge of El Campo; Tonda Bunge, Loueva and Geneva Bunge and Mr. and Mrs. James Bunge, Sr., all of Garwood; Mr. and Mrs. Bubba Bunge of Eagle Lake; and Martha Johnson of El Campo.

Mr. and Mrs. Glen Barnhill and sons, Glen Jr. and Dean, of Houston were guests of Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Hefner last weekend.

Mrs. Danklefs Dies

Friends extend sympathy to the family and relatives of Mrs. Otto (Sylvia) Danklefs, who passed away in the Heritage House at Eagle Lake last Friday. Sylvia was a wonderful person and did much for the people and community of Garwood and she will be dearly missed. A complete obituary is published elsewhere in this paper.

Last Call For Calendars

The deadline for ordering the Alpha Sigma Omicron sorority community birthday calendars is July 31. If interested call any of these numbers: Charlotte Cranek 758-3888, Judy Engstrom 758-3463, Kathy Labay 758-3685, Betty Schiurring 758-3621 and Kathy Stienke 758-3651.

Rice Council Represents Rice Producers

Formed over twenty years ago, the Rice Council represents both rice farmers and rice millers of the Southern rice-growing area.

Each rice-growing state has its own state Rice Council which meets each year to elect a Board of Directors. The state directors elect representatives to the Rice Council of America's Board of Directors. There are five producer representatives from Arkansas, Louisiana and Texas and three from Mississippi. The rice mills in each state elect a total of six mill representatives to the board. The Rice Council Board itself elects a Director-at-large giving the Board 25 members. Officers are elected at the Annual Board Meeting held each year in early fall and comprise the Executive Committee.

The Advertising and Public Relations Committee of the Rice Council meets several times during each year with the Council's advertising agency and representatives of its public relations firm. The committee consists of members of the Board and representatives of rice mills involved in the domestic market. They look at new ideas and programs and then recommend an overall advertising/public relations package to the board.

The Rice Council Board sets the policies and approves the budget and expenditures for all advertising and promotion programs conducted both domestically and abroad. The Rice Council staff, based in Houston, then carries out these programs all across the United States and overseas.

CPL Coleto Creek Station Is Producing

Central Power and Light Company's Coleto Creek Power Station is now producing electricity for South Texas customers. The coal-fired station is the largest single unit in the utility's system, capable of generating 550,000 kilowatts. CPL Executive Vice President Merle Borchelt said "this plant was needed to meet the increasing demands of our customers, and to give the company a more diverse fuel supply."

In fact the plant, which began operation on June 27, is a major step in CPL's fuel diversification program. The company's fuel mix will eventually include natural gas, fuel oil, nuclear, coal, and lignite. Last year natural gas produced more than 99 percent of the company's generating needs. Coleto Creek is expected to produce approximately 14 percent of the company's 1980 kilowatt hour requirements.

While the cost of using coal is now less than natural gas, transportation costs are a major concern. Railroad tariffs have increased regularly since the low-sulfur high BTU Colorado coal began arriving at the Coleto Creek station late last year. The company is presently pursuing the issue in court, and supports the amendment of Texas Congressman Bob Eckhardt which is aimed at keeping transportation costs within reason. The amendment would apply to the proposed railroad deregulation bill.

When the two units of the South Texas Project nuclear powered generating station begin operation, expected by 1986, CPL will be producing approximately 40 percent of its electricity with fuels other than natural gas. "This isn't the 100 percent required by present federal regulations, but it is a start," Borchelt added.

The Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority, which maintains the cooling reservoir at the plant located between Victoria and Goliad, has set aside a section of land for recreation facilities. These will be open to the public for a fee comparable to what is charged at state parks.

A perfect gift - a subscription to the Eagle Lake Headlight. Call 234-2783

Commr. Court OK's New Slot For Spl. Sheriff's Deputy

Ike Etheridge Is Applicant For Spot

After thoroughly airing nepotism laws affecting Colorado County commissioners, the court voted 4-0 Monday to establish an additional position for a special deputy for Sheriff George (Doc) Mueller. Precinct 3 Commissioner Crockett Leyendecker abstained from voting since an applicant for the special deputy's position, Ike Etheridge of Eagle Lake and Chesterville, is a relative. County Judge Lester J. Cranek and Commissioners Bill Stiles, Otto Loessin and Rafael Veselka voted for the motion.

The motion however had some strings attached. It created the eighth special deputy's position, retroactive to June 1st (because the item was unintentionally left off the agenda at the last meeting); but the motion also asked Sheriff Mueller to report to the court at the September budget hearing on activities of special deputies with the possibility that the number of slots for special deputies might be reduced if some of the special deputies are inactive. The special deputies draw a monthly salary of $58.80.

During the discussion, Judge Cranek gave interpretations of nepotism laws, commenting that it is his opinion and supported by the Attorney General's office that Etheridge could serve as a special deputy even though he is related to Commissioner Leyendecker. Judge Cranek noted that the hiring and firing of the deputies is under the control of the sheriff, same as for other department employees under department heads in the county.

The judge noted that "we can't tell the sheriff to hire Etheridge, but we can create a slot for his appointment if the sheriff so desires to appoint him."

Sheriff Mueller has indicated that he favored hiring Etheridge as a special deputy. Etheridge has completed all schooling requirements for certification as a peace officer, but now needs to spend at least one year of in-service training before the certification can become complete.

Precinct 4 Commissioner Bill Stiles said, "as bad as we need good certified officers, I believe that this case is an exception to the rule and should be approved."

He stressed however that the special deputies should be active if they are to be continued and at his suggestion, the amendment was made to the motion to ask Sheriff Mueller to report to the court in September on the activities of the special deputies.

Currently serving as special deputies are: Dick Klimple, Oscar Brandt, Henry (Butch) Strunk, Bill Esterling, Johnny Mathis, Leroy Dees and Alvin Cernoch.

E.L. Firemen Continue To Stay Busy!!

Eagle Lake volunteer firemen continue to stay busy answering alarms which are piling up in record numbers for the year of 1980. During the past week the firemen were called to five alarms, one to a home fire in Bonus area and the other four to grass fires.

At 5:30 a.m. Wednesday of last week the firemen were called to the James Hampton home in the Bonus community south of Eagle Lake where an electrical overload caused a fire in the home. Considerable damage was reported from fire and water.

The firemen were called to two other alarms on Wed., July 23rd, both grass fires. The two alarms were almost simultaneous with one to a grass fire at the corner of Allen and B streets and the other to 7th and Raesner streets, both in the city limits.

Thursday, the firemen went to a grass fire next to railroad right of way across from the Lissie Postoffice seven miles east of Eagle Lake. Railroad flares in grass were believed to cause the fire.

Another grass fire occurred at 6:00 p.m. Sunday five miles east of Eagle Lake on Highway 90A.

St. Paul's In Columbus Sets Revival Aug. 5-9

St. Paul United Methodist Church of Columbus will begin its annual Revival Services at 7:30 p.m. August 5th continuing through August 9th.

The Rev. Troy Bell of San Antonio will be the guest minister. The public is invited to attend these services.

The Rev. H. T. Franks is the pastor. "We are looking forward to a spiritual fellowship during this event. Please plan to attend," he said.

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