

Businesses were expanding, homes being built

One hundred years ago, Sherman County was enjoying a population boom from the westward movement. As a result, businesses were being established or expanding, land was being settled and homes built. *The Goodland Republic* recorded these activities in its weekly newspaper.

New Settlers Are Arriving

Home-makers pouring into Sherman County

Immigrants by the thousands are moving into western Kansas. They come largely from eastern Kansas and Nebraska and from Missouri, Iowa and Illinois. Sherman County is getting its quota, and the overflow goes into Kit Carson County.

A representative of this paper was informed by a newcomer from Seymour, Iowa, that some 14 families from that locality would settle



marcia smith

- from the vault

this spring in Sherman County. In fact, many of them are already here; bag and baggage, and more are coming soon. Most of them have considerable means and are coming to stay.

This movement is going on in Cheyenne County on the north and in Wallace County on the south and, for that matter, all over the western part of the state. This movement is of such magnitude and importance that very few people have any conception of its significance and ultimate consequences. It is reasonably wholesome and beneficial to all

Iowa got to be worth \$75 and \$100 per acre, it was time to sell and seek investment where land was cheaper and would become in time equally productive and valuable."

This is the philosophy of the movement west. People are no longer influenced by the cry, "drouthy Kansas" but respond to the sentiment, "Westward Ho!"

It certainly did not take long to reap the benefits of land purchases and home building going on in 1905-06. The following report was

concerned, both to the old residents here and the newcomers arriving.

A gentleman from Iowa remarked that "when land in

given by the Sherman County clerk in March 1906.

Added 10,720 Acres

That Much More Taxable Land In Sherman Since Last March

County Clerk Wilson Peters reports that there are 67 quarter sections of land, or 10,720 acres, more taxable real estate in Sherman County this year than there was a year ago. This has come about by the purchase and settlement of school lands in this county and by land made taxable by homestead proofs, there being 54 quarters of school land and 13 quarters of homestead land added to the tax rolls of the county for 1906 that was not taxable last year.

Mr. Peters says that a year hence, as many more quarters of land will have been bought into the taxable list in this county.

It is estimated that 100 new houses in Goodland will be assessed this year that were not in existence a year ago.

Not only land seekers, but professionals were arriving as well. A physician's move to western Kansas was announced.

A Belgian Stallion

Imported Horse at the Kellogg Barn That Is a Dandy

The Royal Belgian stallion, owned by F.D. Cludester of Denver Union Stock yards, was on exhibition on the streets of Goodland Saturday. Many farmers and horse men called at the Kellogg livery to look over the superb animal. It is expected that he will be purchased and kept there.

Formosan termite scare spreading on Internet

This past week you may have heard about the dangers posed by the movement of the Formosan termite, since the Internet was alive with reports on the movement of this invasive pest.

From what I understand, concerns were heightened by reports that these termites could be moving from hurricane-ravaged areas in cheap mulch made along the Gulf Coast, where they have been a problem for decades.

The Formosan termite differs from the termites we are familiar with in Kansas. It is an introduced pest, coming in with overseas shipments and first identified in the United States in the 1960s.

These termites form larger colonies and eat much more than the termites we have in Kansas. It is able to survive without ground contact if it has a water source. It has long been considered a problem in southern Louisiana.

Ward Upham, Kansas State horticulturist, did background work on



dana belshe

- ag notebook

the situation, and found:

- Woody debris from areas infested with the Formosan termite in Louisiana and Texas cannot be sold in mulch products. It is not legal to transport and sell this wood mulch to other states, says the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry:

The department's Office of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences has quarantines in place in the Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Rita-affected parishes of Calcasieu, Cameron, Jefferson, Jefferson Davis, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard, St. Charles, St. John, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa and Washington, said Matthew Keppinger, assistant commissioner of the de-

partment. All woody debris in the quarantined areas is going to an approved landfill within the area, Keppinger said. State and Federal agencies that are looking at this debris every day. The contractors mulching and hauling the debris know the regulations and are abiding by them.

If anyone notices debris moving out of a quarantine area, Keppinger said, they should call the department's 24-hour hotline at (225) 925-3763.

- The Formosan termite is a tropical bug and does not do well above a latitude of 33.5 degrees, well south of Kansas. It takes about eight years for a Formosan colony to complete a generation cycle from the pairing of the primary reproductives to the first appearance of alates in the colony.

partment.

All woody debris in the quarantined areas is going to an approved landfill within

- Though the chances of Formosan termites making it to Kansas are low, it would still be a good idea for consumers to keep alert when spreading mulch. If you see termites, a quick treatment with insecticide should take care of them.

Ward says he thinks the concern is mostly hype. Wood products are not routinely transported from areas with the Formosa termite, and even if they were, the chances they would form spreading colonies are negligible at our latitude.

As a final note, Kansas is looking at our termite population. If you find termites, I would like to have samples of then to submit to the lab. If you find wood infesting insects and are not sure as to what they are, bring them in and I will help identify them.

Dana Belshe is agricultural agent for Kansas State University Research and Extension and the Sunflower Extension District, covering Sherman and Wallace counties.

Internet tonight!
899-2338

Dry weather good for aphids, not wheat

If dry conditions persist into early spring, it may be good for something growing in Kansas wheat fields, but it's not the wheat.

"Dry, relatively mild, early spring weather seems to favor greenbug reproduction, and the dry conditions do not favor the growing wheat," said Jeff Whitworth, Kansas State University entomologist. "Thus, as the wheat breaks its winter dormancy but lacks moisture for growth, the greenbug populations are increasing, adding additional stress to the struggling plants."

Greenbugs are aphids, small, soft-bodied insects with sucking mouth parts. Infestations occasionally reach damaging levels in mid-fall after the first frost, but sometimes, also in late winter to early spring, from late February to jointing.

Greenbugs are generally not able to survive winters in Kansas, but they probably do some times. They have no dormant stage, so either the weather needs to be fairly mild or they were lucky enough to find a protected site for winter survival.

Generally, if they do survive Kansas winters, it is in the southern counties.

"We really haven't seen this problem in Kansas for several



jeanne falk

- agron notes

years," Whitworth said; "however, reports from Texas and Oklahoma in the last few weeks indicate a substantial greenbug problem which may lead to some northern migration into Kansas over the next few weeks. Currently, there are a few greenbugs in wheat fields sampled in southeast and south central Kansas, but populations are below the treatment threshold. Also, there are some Bird cherry-oat aphids in these fields."

Initial indications of greenbug feeding may be small reddish or purple spots on the leaves. If feeding continues, the leaves may turn yellow and die, leading to plant death.

Greenbugs are green with a dark stripe down the middle of their back, while Bird cherry-oat aphids are a dark olive green, usually with an orange spot on the back of their body.

Beneficial insects such as lady

beetles and parasitic wasps often help keep aphid populations below damaging levels, but these insects are usually not present in early spring, the entomologist said. So, with dry weather and

a lack of beneficial insects, aphid populations sometimes can rapidly increase.

"Now is a great time to scout your wheat fields for greenbugs, Bird cherry-oat aphids and any other pests or problems common to early spring wheat, such as winter grain mites and army cutworms," Whitworth said.

For information about economic injury levels, treatment thresholds and insecticide guidelines, farmers can check the 2006 Wheat Insect Management Guides available at Kansas State Research and Extension district and county offices. Call the Sherman County office of the Sunflower Extension District at 899-4880 or go to www.oznet.ksu.edu.

Jeanne Falk is an area crop production and economics specialist for Sherman, Cheyenne and Wallace counties with Kansas State University Research and Extension.

YOU +  = 

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Sherman, Wallace, and Cheyenne Counties



Little Brother Joseph

Bowl For Kids' Sake 2006 Saturday, April 1st

Goodland Bowladium Lanes • 509 Caldwell Avenue
Teams: 1 Team Captain + 3 other members

Starts at 11am

First National Bank
Wal-Mart
102.5 KKCI KLOE 730
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Dan Brenner Ford
Goodland Coca-Cola
Western Times
Mt Sunflower Bed & Breakfast
Sunflower Telephone Co.
Garvey Texas Foundation, Inc
Goodland Star - News

**BBBS of Sherman, Wallace & Cheyenne
(785) 890-3665 (785) 852-5301
Team Deadline: March 17, 2006**

First National Bank employees
will be attending a
Spring Conference on March 15,
therefore we will be closing early on that day.
Please note the following
closing time on your calendar:

Wednesday, March 15, 2006

FNB will close at 2:00 pm MT.

Thank you!

First National Bank
www.fnb.com

