

Downpour dampens rodeo audience

COWTOWN, N.J. — The audience streamed from the open stands until only a few stalwart fans remained, at the Cowtown Rodeo last Saturday night. What appeared to be just a summer shower, turned into a downpour. The undaunted cowboys were left to compete before virtually empty bleachers and in a sea of mud!

Rodeo Clown Jimmie Lee Walker of Cowtown, won the Bare Back riding with a mark of 62 for \$166.60.

The cornerstone of all rodeo events, the Saddle Bronc riding was won by Grant Harris also of Cowtown. Grant, a weekly competitor in the Saddle Bronc event, won \$88.20 with a mark of 75.

Eastern Seaboard Section champion calf roper, Bud Bramwell of Stamford, Conn. roped and tied his calf in 12.8 seconds for \$248.92.

Harry Gerhardt of Blackwood, N.J. was top money winner of the evening. In spite of the wet horns of the 600 pound steer, and the slippery arena floor, Harry threw his steer in 5.3 seconds for \$307.72.

None of the girls were able

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to finish the clover leaf barrel race in less than 18 seconds. Dale Bibbo of Spring Valley, N.Y. came in first in 18.33 seconds for \$714.44. Weekly winner Lorraine Alexander came in with fourth place.

T. J. Hawkins rode into first place on a wild Brahma Bull No. 403. T. J. comes from Reedesville, W. Va. and made \$260.68 for a mark of 67.

Kaye Kirby who has been a consistent winner in all the riding events, did not compete last week because of injured ribs.

The total purse for the evening was \$3,116.40 with 103 cowboys and cowgirls competing.

Control requires caution

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reportedly very difficult to get out of water. In the soil it degrades and disappears - with the soil being ready again for field crops after three years. The product is not harmful to grasses, although brome species have shown some sensitivity if high rates of application are used. It's recommended that treated areas not be re-seeded for two years.

Tordon 10-K should not be used around any vegetable plants, and grass from treated pastures should not be used for hay. "It won't hurt anything," said Baldwin, "but the Tordon will go through the cow and then the manure becomes a problem." It's also recommended that treated soils not be moved to other areas.

Tordon's mode of action is not completely understood, but it has something to do with the product's interference in the cell division process. It's use in Pennsylvania and accompanying restrictions were approved by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture.

Good qualities defended

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Acknowledging that the multiflora rose bush has developed to be a problem in some areas, the Commission spokesman defended their side of the issue by explaining that the problem is primarily arising only on those farms which had previously been relatively idle. Land is now being brought into production which was previously in the land bank, the Harrisburg official commented.

Addressing himself specifically to the problem encountered in grazing areas, the spokesman pointed out that grazing was curtailed in some of those areas for a number of years and wild forms of vegetation naturally sprung up in that time. Now farmers are wanting to put sheep and cattle back on the fields and they aren't quite like they used to be.

"We are not opposed to the control of multiflora rose in any way shape or form," the official declared, adding however, that his division would oppose an eradication program.

The Game Commission is reportedly curtailing production of the multiflora rose, and may even stop distribution to certain areas entirely, but it stands firm on its belief that it is a beneficial wildlife plant. Birds make use of the plant for both food and shelter, for example, and the bush also helps to hold soil in place. It was also pointed out that the plant for many years was distributed by both the SCS and ASCS offices for land management purposes and farmers were even paid to do so. Its beneficial qualities have been widely recognized. The Commission claims that it is the re-introduction of idle land into some form of managed agriculture that is causing the problem now.

The Game Commission is not the only source of the hardy rose bush. Flower shops regularly use the plant for grafting, and nearly all ornamental roses can be linked to them. It is therefore considered to be both unwise and unpractical to bring about an eradication program.

The Game Commission is continuing to make the plant available to those who want it because of their belief in its desirable merits. Even so, delivery to southern tier counties may be stopped within the next few months. Continued planting of the shrub in northern areas is not expected to be a real problem even though birds will carry the seeds.

While defensive of their actions and convictions, the Game Commission people also let it be known that they will cooperate in meeting the wishes in certain areas.

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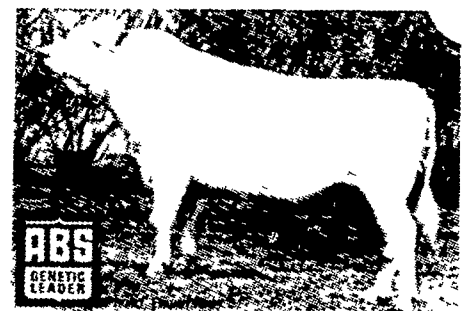
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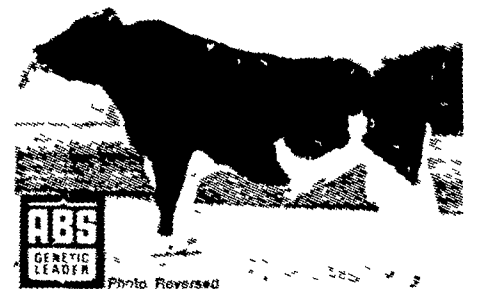


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