

How many Oregon farmers can trace their farms back through their family ownership to the years between 1861 and the end of 1865?

All who can do so will be eligible to apply for Century Farm honors, to be announced later this year.

Opening of the 1965 Century Farm program was announced this week jointly by Thomas Vaughan, director, Oregon Historical Society and J. F. Short, director of the State Department of Agriculture, co-sponsors.

The two groups co-sponsored the first Century Farm program in 1958 as a forerunner to Oregon's centennial year, and again in 1959 and 1960.

Since then, enrollment is opened every five years.

The 1965 Century Farm program will climax, as have the preceding ones, at the Oregon State Fair, which this year will observe its 100th celebration.

Century Farms must have been owned and operated continuously in the same family for one hundred or more years. At the end of the enrollment in 1960, the Historical Society and department of agriculture had recognized 416 Century Farms in Oregon.

Neither Vaughan nor Short will hazard a guess as to how many new Century Farms will appear this year. They do say that several counties should have entries for the first time.

Application blanks for Century Farm honors and complete rules may be obtained by writing to the State Department of Agriculture, Information Service, Agriculture Building, Salem, Oregon. Deadline for filing applications is June 15.

The program is open only to farmers who reside on their Oregon farm or who manage and operate the land from a residence elsewhere in Oregon.