

**SOIL CONSERVATION NEWS**

By JAMES H. GRIFFIN, Soil Conservationist

Following is an interesting article written by Rad Bailey, Edgecombe County Conservationist:

This fellow was telling his friend about something and his friend kept shaking his head, refusing to accept it as pure, unvarnished truth. It was considerably more than a reasonable man could be expected to believe.

Finally the friend said, "Old Buddy, you wouldn't have believed that yourself if you hadn't seen it, would you?"

"I sure wouldn't," this fellow said.

"Well, Old Buddy, I ain't seen it!"

That little incident really took place in Alabama over fifty years ago. Now that's far removed from the present day in Chowan County—both in terms of time and distance—but I'm telling it now for a purpose.

Just exactly and precisely how will it serve its purpose. I don't know. But today it has to do with crotalaria and the things it can do for our sandy, thirsty fields right here in our county.

Crotalaria is a tall growing summer legume. And of course you know that a legume is one of those plants which team up with certain bacteria and together they manufacture and store up nitrogen which previously had been

floating around in the air. That process in itself is one of nature's miracles. But that's not today's subject. Othos of our legumes do the same thing. Such as soybeans, field peas, lespedeza, crimson clover, vetch. Just for the heck of it I'll mention that a locust tree is also a legume.

Skiping along like a county barber, that's what I'm doing. I'd better get back where I belong.

Crotalaria isn't remarkable for just being a legume. It is remarkable for being able to do such an excellent job of soil building on sandy land too poor to sprout peas.

It does this in two ways—by adding nitrogen to the land and by adding tons and tons of organic matter to the one group of our soils which undoubtedly need it the most.

Since nothing will eat crotalaria—not green, not dry, not cured, not at all—I firmly believe the God Lord put it here to be used for soil improvement on our poorest sandy land.

Following that same line of thought, I am truly convinced that the man who first introduced crotalaria to our part of the world right then and there went a long way toward earning a reservation in Heaven.

But, to get back again, crotalaria has still other advantages in its favor—and, of course, all the advan-

tages are in favor of the farmer who plants crotalaria where he needs it.

Crotalaria does not need to be artificially inoculated. You know when you inoculate a legume you put the special kind of bacteria in the ground when you sow the seed. Crotalaria's special variety of bacteria is already in our Chowan soils. And that makes its nice.

Crotalaria doesn't require lime as do a number of our legumes. And it's not fussy when it comes to fertilizer, although it does respond very well to moderate amounts of phosphate and potash.

Crotalaria can be seeded alone. It can be seeded right on top of small grain. It can be seeded in corn at laying-by time. It's adaptable, that's what it is.

Seeded alone it can make the best show. That's because it can get an early start and not have to compete with other plants for food and moisture. Come frost and it'll be almost head high to a basketball player.

Seeded with small grain it behaves very much as does lespedeza seeded with grain. It comes up and more or less bides its time until the grain is harvested. Then it does a whale of a job of catching up, making up pretty well for lost time.

Seeded in corn middles at the last last cultivation it acts pretty much the same way. It comes up and seems to just mess along until the corn is about made. Then it gets in high gear or overdrive or something, and you can almost see the stuff growing. And when frost comes you have your corn crop and a whole lot of crotalaria too.

Another thing, crotalaria and nematodes just naturally don't get along together. I guess that's because even the nematodes won't eat crotalaria and when nematodes don't eat they die. Thus you might say that crotalaria is one of the home-grown medicines which has really made good.

I could go on about the wonders of this miracle plant so well suited to so many acres right here in our county. But if I've gone far enough to get you interested to the point of wanting to do a little seeing-for-yourself, then I've gone far enough.

You plant a few acres, or even a few tenths, on the very poorest, sorriest, sandiest, thirstiest land you have and you'll find out for sure whether or not your soil conservationist needs to be run out of the county.

You try some crotalaria. I'll take my chances.  
P. S. You can earn some ACP money on your crotalaria if you handle it through H. O. West's ASC office. I'll be glad to talk with you about it if you wish.

How About Trade-In Value  
"Won't you spend more than 50 pounds on my ring? I wanted a dearer one."  
"All right, dear. We'll buy it on credit, then it will cost sixty pounds."

**Crotalaria For Soil Bank Land**

By C. W. OVERMAN, Chowan County Agent

Chowan County farmers are showing considerable interest in using crotalaria as a cover crop on land placed on the Soil Bank this year. The Giant Striata variety is being recommended.

Chowan County agriculture workers agreed that crotalaria would perhaps be one of the best cover crops for land placed in the Soil Bank this year, particularly on sandy, light land and on medium, or mixed land. Since nothing can be harvested or grazed from the land this year, crotalaria fills the bill. The Giant Striata variety is being recommended as this variety will not likely reseed in this climate. Crotalaria is an excellent soil improvement legume, should make sufficient fats growth to

keep down weeds and grass if the land is well prepared in advance of seeding and should control noxious weeds as is necessary under the Soil Bank program. The Giant Striata variety should be seeded broadcast at the rate of ten pounds of seed per acre.

Quite a number of farmers participating in the soil bank program plan to use crotalaria as their cover crop on Soil Bank land this year. At least two local seed dealers are stocking seed. Farmers who have not decided on what cover crop to use could wisely consider this variety of crotalaria since it should not reseed and be troublesome in peanuts or other crops to follow this year.

busily paying back earlier debts to the tune of \$37.1 billion.

Since the amount borrowed during the year was only \$2.5 billion more than the amount repaid in same year, the outstanding installment debt was increased by only this \$2.5 billion difference.

**Second Honeymoon Trips Now Offered By Elliott Cleaners**

A second honeymoon to a fabulous place is the dream of almost every married couple.

To promote their free moth-proofing service, Elliott Cleaners of Edenton is giving away three all expense paid trips, one each to Free Europe; Havana, Cuba; and Palm Beach. Each trip is for two and includes round trip air transportation.

To be eligible to win a second honeymoon trip one must register at Elliott Cleaners.

There are no slogans or essays to write and no purchase is required.

The winners will be announced in July.

**Junior GA Rally At Warwick On May 10**

Mrs. L. C. Briggs, Associational Counselor, announces that a Junior GA Rally will be held at the Warwick Baptist Church Friday afternoon, May 10, at 4 o'clock.


The guest speaker will be the Rev. R. E. Gordon, a returned missionary. An interesting program is planned and a large attendance is expected.

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**Attention... VOTERS OF EDENTON!**

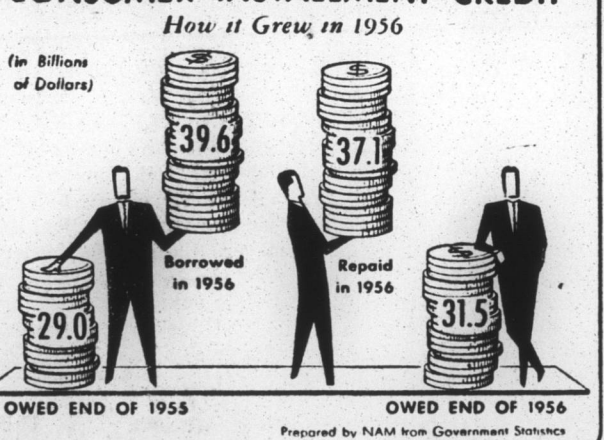


I am a candidate for re-election for Treasurer of the Town of Edenton. If elected I will perform the important duties of this office to the very best of my ability.

**YOUR VOTE AND SUPPORT WILL BE GREATLY APPRECIATED!**

**James M. Bond**

**CONSUMER INSTALLMENT CREDIT**



Federal Reserve Board economists recently issued a special report on consumer installment credit, initially sparked by the rapid \$5.5 billion expansion in this kind of credit in 1955. However, in 1956 this debt increased by only \$2.5 billion.

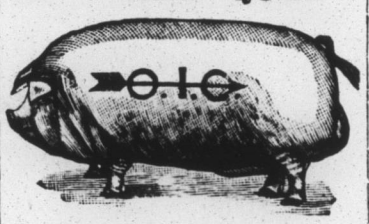
At the start of 1956, consumer installment credit outstanding amounted to \$29.0 billion, and by the end of the year was \$31.5 billion. Underlying that \$2.5 billion increase in 1956 was a tremendous amount of activity in the form of new installment credit extended to

consumers for the purpose of purchasing automobiles, furniture, repairs and modernization of homes, medical services and other consumer wants entailing rather large expenditures.

At the same time a tremendous amount of repayment of credit previously received was taking place. This is graphically illustrated in the chart.

Consumers started the year with installment debt of \$29 billion. In the course of the next 12 months they borrowed \$39.6 billion—but during the same period they were

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**Candidate For Councilman - at - Large**



J. EDWIN BUFFLAP

Seeking re-election as Councilman-at-Large in Edenton's election Tuesday, May 7, I earnestly solicit your vote and support, which will be greatly appreciated. If re-elected, I will, to the best of my knowledge and ability, do whatever I possibly can toward a progressive Edenton, working for the welfare and best interest of the town as a whole.

**Notice To Voters Of Edenton**

After serious consideration and urging on the part of many friends, I have decided to seek election as a member of the Board of Public Works in the Edenton Municipal election May 7, 1957. I have had several years' experience with the town's government as a member of Town Council and feel that I am acquainted with its functions. If elected, I will devote my efforts to the best interest and welfare of Edenton as a whole.

It is impossible for me to contact all voters personally but nevertheless I earnestly solicit your vote and support, which will be greatly appreciated.

**Walter M. Wilkins**

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The settlement and management of estates is an important function of The Bank of Edenton. We offer the experience and facilities of a modern trust organization.

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