

Improved Grading Of Hybrid Corn

"Most of us remember when farmers selected their own seed corn and 'nubbed' each ear prior to shelling the corn," states Marvin R. Godfrey, research assistant with the N. C. Crop Improvement Association.

He said nubbing the ears was actually a crude method of separating the round from the flat kernels. Using this method of separation, the flat kernels which were used for seed, varied greatly in quality and often resulted in uneven planting.

With the advent of hybrid corn, Godfrey points out, it became necessary to provide the farmer with seed that would plant more uniformly with a minimum of waste. "Much progress has been made in recent years and now the North Carolina Crop Improvement Association has made an even greater improvement with the establishment of new grading requirements for all certified hybrid corn seed producers in 1956".

He adds that the new regulations prescribe definite size requirements which each grade must meet in both the width and thickness of the kernels. To sample from each lot of certified seed corn is screened on hand screens in the Crop Improvement Association Office to determine whether or not it meets the grading standards before the blue tag is issued to the producer.

He says once farmers have decided on the size of corn they wish to plant, they must select the proper planter plate for that particular grade. Then they will be able to plant the desired grade using the same planter plate regardless of variety or producer.

For example, a large flat grade of U. S. 282 produced in the mountains can be planted with the same plate as a large flat grade of N. C. 27 in the Coastal Plain.

Because of this new advancement in the grading of hybrid seed corn, more ease will be afforded farmers in planting their crop and should result in higher yields due to better stands, says Godfrey.

Termites nest in the ground and travel up to wood to feed. Control consists of blocking this connection between wood and ground, either mechanically or chemically.

News For Veterans

Three of every five widows of veterans who died of service-connected causes before January 1, 1957, have failed to apply for the new increased dependent's compensation payments, Veterans Administration announced.

The Servicemen's and Veterans' Survivor Benefits Act, which authorizes the new payments, became effective January 1, 1957.

Widows of veterans who died of service-connected causes before January 1, 1957 may elect to receive the new payments or to continue under the old death compensation, whichever is higher.

In most cases, VA said, the new act provides for higher payment to these widows than were granted under previous laws.

Any of these widows who wish to receive the higher benefit must apply for the new compensation payments, even though they already are on VA rolls.

Application cards have been sent to 114,000 of these widows who may be eligible for increased payments, VA said.

If a widow is eligible for an increased monthly payment under the new law, VA said, such payments will be made retroactive to January 1, 1957, provided she applies by July 1, 1957.

With certain exceptions, applications received after July 1 will be effective as of the day they are received, VA emphasized. The benefit will be paid at the monthly rate of \$112 plus 12 percent of the basic monthly pay now being received by a serviceman whose rank and years of service are the same as those of the deceased veteran, VA pointed out.

Q — I have been drawing monthly compensation payments from VA, based on the service-connected death of my husband, a World War I veteran. If I get a job to supplement my income, will my compensation payments be stopped?

A — No. Death compensation payments, based on the service-connected death of a veteran, are not affected by your income. The income "ceilings" apply only to death pensions for the nonservice-connected death of a veteran.

Chick Placement Increase 2% In State

There were 1,985,000 chicks placed with broiler growers in North Carolina during the week ended March 16. This is an increase of 40,000 chicks or two percent, above placements during the previous week and 9.4 percent less than placements during the comparable week last year. Broiler chicks hatched during the week at 1,878,000 is 10,000 above the previous week. Eggs set for broilers during the week increased about 3 percent — from 2,593,000 to 2,667,000.

Chicks Hatched Decrease In North Carolina

Chicks hatched by commercial hatcheries in North Carolina during February totaled 9,030,000, the N. C. Crop Reporting Service announced today. This is about 4.5 percent below the February 1956 output of 9,553,000 chicks and 37 percent above the 1951-55 average. Of the total chicks hatched in February, 7,240,000 chicks were for broiler purposes, and the remaining 1,206,000 chicks were egg-type chicks.

Egg Production At Record High

Egg production on North Carolina farms during 1956 amounted to 1,872 million eggs, a record high output and 14 percent above the 1955 previous record high of 1,469 million.

The average number of layers on farms in North Carolina during 1956 at 8,899,000 was 9 percent above the previous record high reached in 1954. The annual average rate of lay per 100 layers at 568 was also a new record high and compares with the previous record of 1,510 established in 1955.

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This tax on freight charges and its companion tax on passenger fares were imposed by the government as temporary emergency measures during World War II, to raise money for war and to discourage the use of overburdened public transportation facilities. Yet they are still with us, costing consumers hundreds of millions of dollars annually and bearing most heavily on those least able to afford them.

We urge in the public interest that sincere consideration be given now to the repeal of these unfair and discriminatory "temporary" taxes that arbitrarily penalize the users of our service, act as a drag on the flow of business and ultimately inflate the price of almost everything you buy.

Harry A. Ogden

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