

New Marketing Card To Be Issued

Franklin County farmers will be issued a new kind of tobacco marketing card in 1966. The marketing card will be similar to the plastic credit cards used by gasoline stations. The cards will be prepared at the State ASCS Office in Raleigh and returned to the County ASCS Offices for distribution to the producers. Each grower will present his marketing card at the time of the weigh in of his tobacco.

The county office has recently mailed to all farm operators in Franklin County a double post card requesting the Flue-Cured Stabilization Number of each farm operator. It is very important that the self-addressed post card be returned to the County ASCS Office immediately. Operators should review the information they

have entered on the card before mailing to make sure that it is correct.

Producers are coming to the county office daily to sign-up in the 1966 voluntary Feed Grain, Wheat, and Cotton Programs. Producers who request advance payments may receive one-half of the total diversion payment from feed grain and cotton at the time of sign-up. The remaining diversion payment plus the price support payments will be made during late summer. No advance payments are being made on wheat being signed-up. The sign-up period will end April 1, 1966, for the above programs.

Producers who are interested in retiring all of one or more of their allotments or bases for a period of from 5 to 10 years should examine the bene-

fits of the Cropland Adjustment Program.

Annual program payments and government cost-sharing to establish the land in a permanent type cover are available to those who participate in the program. The final date to sign-up has not been announced.

Since producers will certify to their acreages planted and land usage on the farm this year, it is very important that they plant within their allotments

and permitted acreages. Pre-measurement will be available to those who request this service.

Through Friday, February 11, 1966, approximately 250 requests have been accepted. At present, there are no limitations to the number of requests that will be accepted by the county office, and a special effort will be made to service all requests for premeasurement.

"Direct" Seeding of Tomatoes



Fireball, an extra-early tomato variety, is better sown directly in the soil where plants are to grow. Other tomato varieties also may be "direct-seeded." For names, see article.

While the seeds of most tomato varieties must be started indoors weeks ahead of frost-free date in the garden, there are some varieties that can be planted right out in the garden and still will produce bountiful crops within your growing season. Time to plant is after May 10 in the north, after March 20 in the south, and after April 15 in the "middle" states.

All of these varieties are "early" tomatoes—that require a shorter time to mature fruit than most kinds. Among them are the older Earlianna and Valiant, the newer tomatoes Gardener and Fireball.

After soil has been prepared by spading, preferably to a depth of a foot, clods broken up and the area leveled and smoothed with a rake, seeds of these tomatoes may be planted.

Make furrows an eighth of an inch deep, spaced at least 18 inches apart. Seeds of Valiant and Fireball should be scattered about a inch apart in the row; those of Earlianna and Gardener can be spaced further apart.

This difference in spacing is because Valiant has vines that grow sparsely and Fireball foliage is sparse, thus plants of

these two varieties will be grown closer together than those of the other varieties. Cover all seeds with 1/8 inch of soil.

When seedlings are 3 or 4 inches high, thin so they are spaced from 2 to 3 feet apart. If, however, you have planted seeds of Fireball or Valiant, allow plants to remain 6 to 8 inches apart AFTER thinning. Tomatoes, like other vegetables, need water when summer weather is dry and both plants and fruits will be larger if fertilizer is given once a month.

In early autumn, when frosts threaten, prolong the tomato season in your garden by covering the plants in the rows with layers of newspapers, anchoring the edges with stones and soil.

District 8 Tobacco Growers To Meet

L. T. Weeks, General Manager of Flue-Cured Tobacco Cooperative Stabilization Corporation, and the Cooperative's Director from District #8, T. W. Allen of Creedmoor, announced today the 8th annual Stabilization district meeting for the tobacco growers in District #8. The district includes the following counties from the Middle Belt of North Carolina: Warren, Vance, Granville, Franklin, Durham, Orange, Wake, Chatham, Lee, Montgomery and Moore. The meeting will be held in Sanford, at the Lee

County Court House, on February 24, beginning at 2:00 p.m. Both Weeks and Allen stated that the meeting is being held solely for the benefit of tobacco growers and others interested in tobacco. An informative program has been planned, highlighted by an optimistic report from Stabilization's staff concerning the previous year's operations and the outlook for the future.

John D. Palmer, President of Tobacco Associates, Inc., or his representative, will discuss the recent activities of that or-

ganization's efforts to promote increased exports of flue-cured tobacco. W.H.W. (Bill) Anderson, Executive Secretary of Tobacco Growers' Information Committee, will discuss current problems confronting the industry, including comments on tobacco taxation and the health issue.

Stabilization's members elect annually at the district meetings an Advisory Committee from each county in the district. These committeemen serve the vital function of helping to disseminate information regarding

Stabilization's operations to other tobacco growers in their area as well as to the general public.

Both Weeks and Allen pointed out that this meeting offers an excellent opportunity for every grower in the district to learn more about the tobacco program. They encourage all growers to be in Sanford at the Lee County Court House, on February 24, at 2:00 p.m. to participate in this meeting.

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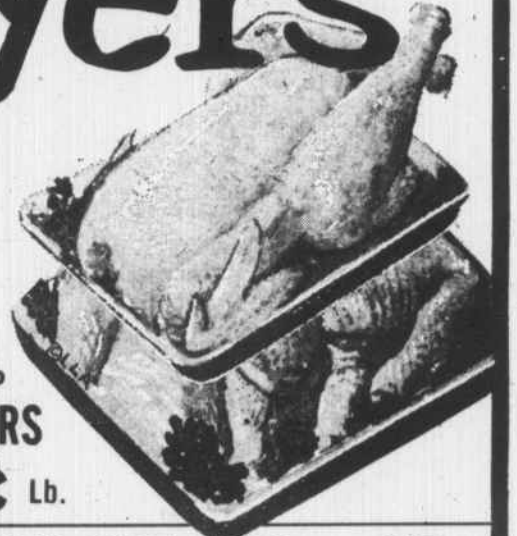
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