

BALANCED RATIONS OF PLANT FOOD BEST FOR FARM CROPS

A balanced ration is best for both human beings and livestock. This fact has been proved by science. Food authorities tell us to use a mixed diet balancing the different kinds of food substances, making sure to obtain sufficient mineral material and vitamins.

Producers of livestock have found that proper feeds must be used in order that their stock may make the most economical gains. The progressive dairymen recognize the necessity of a balanced ration for their cows as a means of obtaining more profitable milk production.

Balanced Rations for Crops

Balanced rations for crops are just as necessary for best growth. It is not difficult to observe when plants in a field are starving to death, and each summer many fields are seen where the plants are dying for lack of plant food. In other fields it is apparent that the crop is receiving plenty of some plant foods but lacks others—an unbalanced ration. A balanced ration would be a fertilizer containing the right proportions of nitrogen, phosphoric acid and potash, according to the Soil Improvement Committee, The National Fertilizer Association.

The progressive dairyman is looking for cows of large capacity, cows that can eat large amounts of feed, for he looks on them as a sort of factory and takes the cheap raw feeds, such as hay, silage, and grain, and changes them into a more valuable product—milk. As a rule, the more feed a good dairy cow consumes the more milk she will produce, and the more profit she will make for the owner.

The grower of field crops, the cotton grower for example, should look on his cotton crop in much the same way. The cotton plant takes cheap raw materials, which are called plant food, and converts them into much more valuable cotton lint and seed. As a rule, if it is a good variety of cotton, grown under favorable conditions, the more plant food the cotton plants use the more cotton will be produced and the more profit will be made.

Experiments conducted by agricultural authorities in many states have definitely shown that cotton, and other crops as well, make most vigorous growth and are less likely to be seriously affected by disease when fed liberally with well balanced plant food. Complete commercial fertilizers of various analyses are manufactured to supply balanced rations for crops on different soils. The use of the proper fertilizer will result in a better crop and a more profitable production.



PROFITS FROM COTTON DEPEND ON LOW COST

HIGH YIELD PER ACRE MEANS LOW COST PER POUND

Profit from cotton for the grower depends on the difference between the cost of producing and marketing the crop and the price that can be obtained for it. The grower with a low cost of production per pound of lint will make most profit per bale, providing the quality of his product is good.

Studies of cost of producing cotton have been made on thousands of southern farms by the United States Department of Agriculture. These studies have indicated that under average conditions, where yields of one-third of a bale per acre were obtained, it cost approximately 16 cents to produce and market a pound of lint. On farms where yields of a bale per acre were secured, the cost of lint was only 9 cents per pound.

These results clearly show that low yield per acre means high cost per pound. High yield per acre offers opportunity for greater profit by increasing the spread between the cost of production and the selling price, according to the Soil Improvement Committee, The National Fertilizer Association.

While there are many factors affecting yield per acre, such as good land, good seed, good cultivation, one of the most important agencies for increasing yield of cotton is the use of sufficient plant food.

Experiments conducted by the agricultural experiment stations throughout the South as well as the experience of farmers have shown that proper fertilizers increase yield per acre and result in more profit from the crop. The North Carolina Experiment Station found as an average of a number of tests that a pound of seed cotton was produced for every pound of complete fertilizer (one containing nitrogen, phosphoric acid, and potash) used up to 1,000 pounds per acre. The value of the seed cotton produced by the fertilizer was \$54 per acre more than the cost of the fertilizer, assuming seed cotton to be worth 7 cents per pound.

Somewhat similar results have been obtained by experiment stations in other states. Commenting on the results of experiments at the Mississippi station to determine the proper rate of fertilization for cotton, those in charge of this work state that the results "indicate high qualities are practicable and justify the conclusion that the danger lies more in using too little rather than too much fertilizer." The use of 600 to 800 pounds of a high-analysis complete fertilizer per acre on cotton is conservative

FARMERS NEED CHEAPER HOME GROWN FEEDS

Helps Lower Cost of Growing Other Crops and Increase Growers' Profit.

Cheap home-grown feed helps to lower the cost of growing cotton and to increase the cotton grower's profit. Corn is the best feed crop in the cotton belt, but many farmers neither have plenty of corn nor do they produce it cheaply.

Although the Southern farmer is planting a large acreage to corn, he must buy feed, because his average crop of corn is only 17 bushels per acre. Because of this low yield the cost of corn per bushel is high.

This low yield can be increased at a profit. The cost studies made by the United States Department of Agriculture show that on farms where higher yields were obtained, corn was produced at a lower cost per bushel, for although it cost more per acre to produce the larger yields, there were more bushels to share the cost.

A good mule should have 75 bushels of corn during the year. If the yield is 13 bushels per acre, about 6 acres of corn, at a cost of \$100, would be required to feed a mule. If 41 bushels per acre are grown, two acres would supply the corn at a cost of \$49.00.

As considerable idle land is available for crops, it might seem that the farmer should increase his acreage in corn in order to grow sufficient feed.

A better way is to fertilize more liberally the acres now under cultivation and thereby get not only more corn but cheaper corn, because it costs much more to cultivate the additional acres in corn than to buy fertilizer sufficient to produce the necessary feed on the acres now in corn.

Under usual conditions the application of a complete fertilizer at planting time gives the best results with corn. This may be followed when the corn is knee to waist high, by an application of nitrogen in readily available form. On this land two applications of available nitrogen are sometimes made, the first being applied when the corn is knee high, and the second when the corn is bunching to tassel.

From 200 to 400 pounds per acre of a complete fertilizer, such as 10-4-4, applied at planting time, followed by a side dressing of 150 pounds of nitrate of soda or nitrate of lime, or of three-fourths this amount of sulphate of ammonia, will produce more corn at a lower cost per bushel. Under average conditions, the application of 100 pounds of nitrate of soda or its equivalent in nitrate of lime or sulphate of ammonia should give an increase of 6 to 8 bushels of corn, according to the Soil Improvement Committee, The National Fertilizer Association.

MRS. FEARINGTON ENTERTAINS

Mr. and Mrs. Bunn Fearington entertained at their home in Baldwin's township the last week-end in January in honor of Mrs. J. E. Owens, of Raleigh, the occasion being the latter's birthday. Only members of the families and brothers of Mrs. Owens were present.

They had as their week-end guests Judge and Mrs. J. E. Owens of Raleigh, Misses Henrietta, Jessie, and Geraldine Owen, Florence Fitzgerald, Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Biggs, Mr. and Mrs. Norman L. Balance, Owen and N. L. Balance, Jr., of Raleigh, Dr. and Mrs. Paul Fitzgerald and Paul Fitzgerald, Jr., of Greenville, Mr. Charles Fitzgerald and H. A. Fitzgerald, and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Warren Graham of Roanoke, Va.

A SAD DEATH

Mrs. Warden W. Mann, of Baldwin township, died Monday afternoon after an illness of two weeks with flu and pneumonia. All the family had been sick with influenza except her husband's brother, who lives with them, and upon him had fallen the care of a house full of sick folk. Consequently, Mrs. Mann during her attack of influenza would get up and help, especially to attend to the 18-months old baby.

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Pneumonia followed influenza. Her heart seemed to be bad, and she had several sinking spells. In one of these Monday she passed quietly away, in less than an hour after the physician had left and she had asked the nurse what he had said of her condition.

The death is very sad. She leaves her husband and five children, the oldest of whom is only 14 years old.

P. T. A. MEETING

On account of the prevalence of influenza the regular meeting of the Parent-Teacher association was held Jan. 18, 1929 instead of the first Friday evening.

At this meeting it was reported that Mr. Vander Johnson and the committee appointed at the December meeting had arranged for the basement rooms in the school building to be heated comfortably. The work was done under Mr. Johnson's direction at a cost of \$100.00, the greater part of which has been paid by the P. T. A.

The association expressed its appreciation to Mr. Johnson and the committee for the prompt and efficient service rendered to the community.

The treasurer reported \$270.36

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paid in and \$216.17 paid out since last meeting, leaving a balance on hand of \$54.19.

The president complimented the school basket ball team and the association gave the boys a hearty applause. They have lost but one game during the season.

It being near General Lee's birthday, Miss Virginia Bean and Miss Ann Bynum gave very interesting life sketches of the South's great hero.

Threw new members were gladly received into the association: Mrs. L. D. Johnson, Mr. Henry Clegg and Miss Lozelle Campbell.

Mr. and Mrs. Siler ave their names for membership at the previous meeting.

M.R.E. W. P. HORTON, Sec.

DEATH OF ELIZABETH DISMUKES

The departure of our dear friend Elizabeth Dismukes was a shock to the community of Carbon ton. She passed out of this world to a land where there is no suffering, on Friday, January 25, 1929. She was taken nearly seven weeks ago with an incurable disease, which she endured with patience until the end.

She had many friends here on earth, but has more in heaven. She was loved by all who knew her, and will be greatly missed in this community.

We all love Elizabeth, But Anels loved her more, And she has gone to be with Jesus.

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