

INTERESTING FACTS FOR FARMERS

TIMELY HINTS ON GROWING CROPS.

Farm News

Edited by N. C. SHIVER, County Agt.

DOINGS OF CHATHAM FARMERS

STOCK FARMING, POULTRY, ETC.

A Challenge to the Farmers and Business Men of Chatham

During recent years, the dairy industry in North Carolina has been increasing by leaps and bounds. Progressive counties to the west of us are increasing the number of cows milked yearly, and this has meant a consequent increase in farm prosperity in these counties. There never was a time in the history of our county when livestock (cows, hogs, sheep and poultry) were needed on our farms as badly as they are today. Those few farmers in Chatham who are milking cows, growing feed for these cows, putting the manure back on the land, and feeding the by-product to hogs and chickens are the only farmers who are able to finance their fertilizer bills this year. In a recent conversation with a banker of this county, the agent was told that practically none of these farmers had asked for credit for fertilizer this year. He added however that the bank was able to take care of these farmers because they had a steady monthly income.

The farmers in this county have shown that they have enough community and county pride to begin to make Chatham county a future livestock center, and they are co-operating with the county agent in buying pure bred Jersey calves for their boys and girls to form the basis for the cattle industry of this county, and to provide a source of income for the farms on which they are placed. The farm's greatest assets today are the rural boys and girls, and with the proper encouragement, many of these boys and girls will stay on the farm and help Chatham county to take its rightful place in the agriculture of this state. The greatest thing that can be done by any farmer, merchant or banker in this county is to encourage these boys and girls to obtain pure bred stock. The children are willing, but without the co-operation and encouragement of the older folks, their willingness will be of no avail. The county agent is making this request to all farmers, bankers and business men to co-operate with him in putting this project across.

News of the Week on Chatham County Farms

A fine stand of sweet clover, and some nice pastures were visited on the farm of Mr. W. W. Stedman near Moncure this week. Mr. Stedman has two acres seeded in sweet clover under the county agent's direction for demonstration purposes. He double inoculated his seed and used two tons of lime per acre. Sweet clover is thick and healthy looking, and this should make a fine demonstration. Mr. Stedman also has several acres in prepared pasture that was seeded several years ago. Mr. Stedman is known throughout the county as a breeder of Duroc-Jerseys.

Messrs. J. Frank Burns and G. F. Burns seem to be making progress with their sweet clover demonstrations also. Each of these two men have two acres each in sweet clover, and the clover seems to be coming along nicely.

Two farmers in the western part of the county are demonstrating the fact that alfalfa can be grown successfully in this county. They are Mr. W. H. White of the Rocky river community and Mr. H. J. Straughan of the Silk Hope community. Mr. White has two acres in alfalfa that were seeded last spring, and when visited by the agent last week, the alfalfa was almost high enough to cut.

Mr. Straughan has one acre that was seeded with spring oats this spring. While this alfalfa is young, it shows promise of being a worthwhile demonstration. Mr. W. B. Dorsett of the Hickory Mountain community also has an alfalfa demonstration seeded last spring that is doing nicely.

During the past week, Sheriff G. W. Blair seeded eight acres in a pasture mixture recommended by the county agent. The sheriff adopted a practice that is becoming increasingly popular with livestock farmers, that of top dressing old pasture land with lime and phosphates. He top dressed four acres of old pasture land with 1,000 pounds of lime, and 300 pounds of acid phosphate, and then reseeded it. We believe that where this lime and acid is applied, a big difference will be seen this summer over pasture land not having this application.

There is a possibility of some extra good Jersey blood being introduced in this county in the near future. Mr. John Norwood of Chapel Hill, R. F. D. 4, is contemplating buying two bred heifers from Catawba county of the blood of the famous Red Lady, bred and owned by R. L. Shurford of Hickory, winner at the dairy exposition at Memphis. These heifers are also out of sires and dams of the famous bull, Pogis of Hood farms. These heifers would be a real addition to the livestock industry of this county.

Two farmers of the Silk Hope community, Mr. J. B. Ingle and Mr.

Petty, have their order in for a registered Jersey Bull. This bull will be delivered shortly.

Rains this week were a great help to young clover, lespedeza, sweet clover and red clover. The agent observed a two-acre field of lespedeza No. 76 seed by Mr. A. G. Thomas of Moncure R. F. D. 2. There is a fine stand of this strain of lespedeza on this field.

Farm Engineering Suggestions for the Month of April

Mr. A. H. Holman, extension rural engineer, has given the following suggestions for Chatham county farmers during the month of April:

1. Plow and drag terraces until they are 15 feet wide and 15 inches high.
2. Remove ditch banks with drag scoops before planting.
3. Cultivate (harrow) soils before planting as well as after.
4. Save the early hay crop at lower production costs by using machinery.
5. Use the riding cultivator for "laying" rows, listing and bedding.

THE USE OF LIME AND LEGUMES SHOW PROFIT IN CHATHAM

The county agent has interviewed a number of farmers in regard to the use of lime and legumes, and has also conducted a number of demonstrations with lime and legumes in this county. The general consensus of opinion regarding lime, obtained first hand from the farmers is as follows:

1. Lime makes soil easier to work, loosens tight soil, and tends to make loose soil firmer.
2. For every ton of lime applied to soil at \$6 per ton, we figure an average return of \$15 in the increased yield of small grains, the increased growth of leguminous crops and the easier working of the land.
3. Our results would seem to indicate, that so far as regards the yield of small grains, our results are obtained the second year.
4. We believe that lime will benefit soils whether they are acid or sweet, but we believe that the best results are obtained from liming sour soils.
5. As regards fertilizer, our experience would lead us to believe that we get better results with commercial fertilizers where we use lime.

There is no doubt, that for the money paid out, lime returns an initial profit that more than justifies the initial expenditure. While lime is not a plant food for most crops, it so hastens the decay of organic matter in the soil, thereby liberating plant food with the result that some farmers feel that it is really a plant food. The accumulative results from the use of lime and legumes are greatest of all. No greater proof of the beneficial results from the use of lime on our soils can be obtained than by asking a farmer who has once used it.

POULTRY PRICES REACH THE PEAK

On Thursday, April 18, Chatham poultry will be bought at Siler City and Pittsboro for the highest prices yet paid. While we are hoping that the price will stay at this level, still we believe that it will pay the farmer to market his culs while this price prevails. At this sale, hens will bring 28 cents per pound.

"FARM PHILOSOPHY"

What would happen to some farmers if farms could choose their owners?

It's a wise farmer who knows a mistake when he makes one.

Verily, verily I say unto you, uneasy lies the farmer's head that rests entirely on cotton.

Clover growing on a farm brings better luck than a train load of horseshoes.

Home equipment lightens woman's work, and thereby lightens her heart. "Whoever plants a seed beneath the sod And waits to see it push away the clod

He trusts in God."—Bulwer Lytton.

CHATHAM COUNTY COTTON RECOMMENDATIONS

Plant only on fertile soil, capable of producing a profitable yield. Make rows three feet apart, and leave two or three plants every 12 inches.

Fertilize with 600 pounds of a high grade fertilizer to suit the requirement of the soil.

Prepare land thoroughly. Mix fertilizer thoroughly with soil to prevent damage to germination. Plant at least five pecks of viable seed per acre.

Plant early, but late enough to avoid frosts. Be prepared to side dress with readily available nitrogen at first chopping.

LARGE NUMBER OF FARMERS ATTEND DAIRY MEETINGS

Eighty-five farmers and farm boys attended three meetings held at Gum Springs school, Silk Hope school and Climax school, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of last week, and heard talks made on dairying and dairy club work. A sa result of these meetings, 12 farmers have announced their intentions of co-operating with their boys and girls in buying registered Jersey heifers.

Farmers attending these meetings were fortunate in having two good speakers, Mr. F. H. Mendenhall of the North State Creamery Company at Burlington, and Mr. Joe Nicholson, a practical poultry and dairy farmer of Alamance county. Mr. Nicholson made an interesting talk at one of these meetings, describing the farm situation in Alamance county before progress was made in dairying. Mr. Nicholson declared that his home community faced farm disaster before the farmers decided to adopt dairying, and he further declared that dairy calf club work in his community and county has been the greatest factor in promoting the agriculture of Alamance county. Mr. Mendenhall spoke briefly of the necessity of farmers' improving their herds, eliminating the poor producer, introducing pure breeds, and in general taking better care of the cows that are already on hand.

4-H CLUB NEWS

Activities of the Farm Boys of Chatham County

Two new members for club work enrolled at Goldston recently. They are Fred S. Watson, Bear Creek R. F. D. 2, and Addison Burns, Goldston. Each of these boys want a registered Jersey heifer for their project, and we hope to assist these boys in getting these heifers shortly.

Fifteen Chatham boys have announced their intentions of securing registered Jersey heifers this spring with the aid of their parents. Some of these boys who hope to secure heifers soon are:

- Charles Lutterloh, Jr., Pittsboro, R. F. D. 2.
- Sadie Straughan, Siler City, R. F. D.
- George Ingle, Siler City, R. F. D.
- Leon Lindley, Siler City, R. F. D.
- Ralph Campbell, Siler City, R. F. D.
- John Mann, Pittsboro, R. F. D. 2.
- Isaac Harris, Siler City, R. F. D., and others.

Lemuel Burns, and Ike Bynum, members of the Pittsboro Junior Club, are taking corn as their project this year, and they expect to get this land prepared for corn as soon as possible.

A Y'S FARMER

There is a farmer who is Y's
Enough to take his E's
And study nature with his I's,
And think of what he C's.

He hears the chatter of the J's
As they each other T's;
And sees that when a tree D K's
It makes a home for B's.

A pair of oxen he will U's,
With many "Haw's and G's",
And their mistakes will be X Q's,
While plowing for his P's.

In raising crops he all X L's,
And therefore little O's;
And when he hoes his soil by spells
He also soils his hoers.
—The Pathfinder.

My Favorite Stories

by Irvin S. Cobb

Working While Others Slept

A WELL-KNOWN public lecturer occasionally tells this story on the platform as illustrative of the enterprise and instinctive commercial sagacity of the young American. He vouches for it as an actual experience. His version of it runs somewhat as follows:

"Two summers ago I was motoring up in New England. Taking a short cut over a dirt road late one afternoon I ran into a miry place and the car bogged down and stuck fast. Providentially, as it would seem, a farmer boy immediately hove into sight, leading a team of big horses. I entered into negotiations with him and the upshot was that for a dollar he agreed to undertake the job of rescuing me from my predicament. The price seemed reasonable and we closed the bargain.

"He hooked his horses to the axle of the stalled automobile and soon had my car upon high ground. I was struck by the brightness of the lad and the skill he had shown in extricating the heavy machine from the mire. After I had paid him I led him into conversation, taking occasion immediately to compliment him upon his smartness.

"Well," he said, "I've had considerable practice, Mister. Your'n makes the sixth car I've pulled out of this here same mudhole today."

"Did each one of the owners pay you a dollar?" I asked.

"Yep," he said. "That's my regular price for this job."

"Then you've earned six dollars today?"

"Yep, that's right," he said.

"Pretty fair wages for a boy your age, I should say," I commented.

"Before answering me, the youngster withdrew from my immediate vicinity and mounted one of his horses.

"Well," he said, "this has been a 'specially good day. I don't always take in this much; and anyhow, 'tain't as easy as you might think for me to earn this money. All day I've got to be hangin' 'round waitin' for one of you city fellers to get bogged down and start callin' for help. That ain't the worst of it, neither. Except when it rains, I have to be around here a good part of every night."

"What do you do here at nights?" I asked.

"He drew his team off the road and started away through the woods. Then, over his shoulder, as he vanished, he replied:

"Oh, night-times I have to draw water and fill up this here mudhole so's it'll be all ready for business the next day."

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How Would You Write, "There Are Three (To, Too, Two)'s in the English Language"?

In such a case, it is necessary to use a phonetic combination to represent the common sound of the three words. "Too" is the phonetic combination employed in most dictionaries to indicate the pronunciation of "to," "too" and "two," when diacritical marks are not used. Therefore it is correct to write, "There are three 'too's in the English language," the "too" here standing not for the word so spelled but for the sound of all three words. It is merely a poor way of saying that there are three words in the English language pronounced "too." The same problem arises in connection with any two or more words that are the same in pronunciation but different in spelling. —The Pathfinder.

A roomer at a hotel annoyed the other roomers by jumping and skipping around his room until the proprietor objected and demanded an explanation. The guest explained by saying: "My doctor gave me some medicine for my rheumatism with instructions to take it three nights running and then to skip a night. This happens to be my skipping night." —The Pathfinder

Youth—Your grandfather never listens in on the radio?

Girl—No; he's skeptical about the whole thing.

Some men are afraid of nothing but danger.

THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS OFFERED FOR BEST STALKS OF COTTON

Somewhere in the South this year a single stalk of cotton will be grown that will be worth \$1,000. Two others will bring prizes of \$500 each, and several thousand dollars will be divided among 57 other stalks, prizes ranging from \$300 down to \$10, at three sectional fairs—Memphis, Atlanta, and Dallas.

These prizes are being offered by the National One-Stalk Cotton Show, which will be staged again this year by the Sears-Roebuck Agricultural Foundation and the Southern Division, Soil Improvement Committee, The National Fertilizer Association. The show will be held in three sections as follows:

- Tri-State Fair, Memphis, Tenn., Sept. 28 to Oct. 5.
- Southeastern Fair, Atlanta, Ga., Oct. 5 to 12.
- State Fair of Texas, Dallas, Oct. 12 to 27.

Stalks winning first prize at each of the three fairs will be judged at the State Fair of Dallas, and the winner awarded \$1,000, which will include the sectional prize.

This show is to be held again this year to stimulate interest in economical production of better cotton from which the farmer gets bigger profits, according to those in charge of arrangements.

Any farmer, whether landlord or tenant, white or colored, or any one member of his family will be allowed to enter a single stalk for competition. Only one stalk may be shown from each farm unit. Premiums for single stalks will be given as shown in the table at the top of the next column.

Rules of Contest.

The stalks exhibited must be grown in 1929.

Stalks must come from a field where at least one acre of cotton was grown in 1929. However, any spacing, fertilization, protection, or cultural practice may be used.

Stalks shown must contain the cotton that grew on the stalk. Picking and refilling will not be permitted.

Braches must not be cut from stalks exhibited. All leaves must be removed.

PREMIUMS FOR BEST SINGLE COTTON STALKS

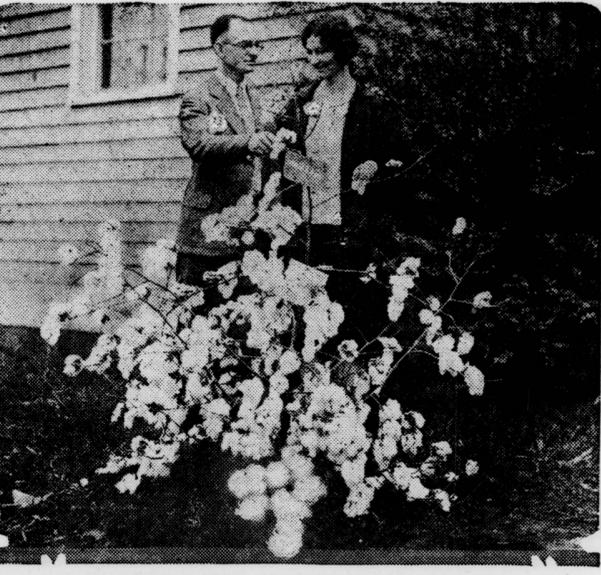
For the Best Stalk in the South (including sectional prize)...\$1,000

	Atlanta	Memphis	Dallas
1st	\$500	\$500	\$500
2nd	300	300	300
3rd	200	200	200
4th	100	100	100
5th	50	50	50
6th	25	25	25
7th	25	25	25
8th	25	25	25
9th	25	25	25
10th	25	25	25
11th	10	10	10
12th	10	10	10
13th	10	10	10
14th	10	10	10
15th	10	10	10
16th	10	10	10
17th	10	10	10
18th	10	10	10
19th	10	10	10
20th	10	10	10

The name of the variety must be shown on the stalk.

Score cards to be used in judging the stalks will be prepared by competent agricultural leaders, including agricultural college experiment station workers. Actual judging will be done by competent authorities from each section.

Exhibitors need not necessarily accompany exhibits, but may ship same, charges prepaid, to the National One-Stalk Cotton Show, in care of the fair in their district. Entrants living in Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama and Florida should enroll by sending their names and addresses to The National Cotton Show, Atlanta, Georgia. Those in Oklahoma and Texas to The National Cotton Show, Dallas, Texas, and those in Tennessee, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, Missouri, and Kentucky to The National Cotton Show, Memphis, Tenn.



Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Tate of Stoneville, Miss., Winners of Sweepstakes Prize in National Cotton Show, 1928.

ADJUSTING COTTON PRODUCTION TO MEET MILL REQUIREMENTS

Spinners pay for the cotton they use on the basis of its spinning utility. The higher the grade, the longer, stronger and more uniform the staple, and the better the character of the staple, the more they pay for it. Unfortunately, however, the premium paid for the better cotton frequently is not passed on to the farmer, and the producer of the quality cotton is therefore not rewarded as he deserves.

The need for the adjustment of production to meet the mill requirements is brought out by the Division of Cotton Marketing of the United States Department of Agriculture in reports issued this season for the first time, showing the classification by grade and staple length of the cotton crop of the Belt as a whole and for the several states. A recent report indicates that of the cotton ginned up to February 15, 1929, more than 50 per cent was short staple— $\frac{3}{8}$ -inch, $\frac{13}{16}$ -inch and under in length. Contrast with these figures those of another report which indicates that 84 per cent of the cotton consumed by domestic mills for the year ending August 1, 1928, consisted of about equal parts of staples $\frac{3}{8}$, $\frac{15}{16}$, and 1 to 1 $\frac{1}{32}$ inches.

One of the objects of the National Cotton Show to be held this fall is to stimulate interest in production of better quality cotton to meet the requirements of the mills. The show which is being sponsored by the Sears-Roebuck Agricultural Foundation and the Soil Improvement Committee, The National Fertilizer Association, will be held in three sections, at the Tri-State Fair, Memphis, Tenn.; the Southeastern Fair, Atlanta, Ga.; and the State Fair of Texas, Dallas.

BALANCED RATION IS NECESSARY FOR GOOD COTTON STALK

To produce a prize winning stalk of cotton for the National Cotton Show, which will be held at the Memphis, Atlanta, and Dallas fairs this fall, good seed should be planted and special care should be taken to see that the plants have everything that they need in the way of good cultivation and plenty of plant food. Good care and plenty of plant food will bring out the good qualities that have been bred into this particular strain of cotton.

Although, as in the production of a beef animal, the cotton stalk should have all of the balanced plant food it can use to make rapid growth and put on fat or fruit, some care must also be exercised not to throw the plant "off feed" by overfeeding or by using an unbalanced ration.

There is little danger of overfeeding a crop of cotton, in fact there is no question but that more profitable crops of cotton would be made if better balanced plant food rations were fed to the crop, and there is danger of overfeeding or producing too much stalk at the expense of the fruit where unbalanced fertilizers are used in forcing a stalk too early for development.

The prize winning stalks of cotton at the National Cotton Show, which is being sponsored by the Sears-Roebuck Agricultural Foundation and the Soil Improvement Committee of The National Fertilizer Association, will likely be produced by farmers who have found good cottons that are well adapted to the particular soil conditions where grown and who appreciate the importance of ample amounts of balanced plant food.

FERTILIZER

We have on hand a good stock of all grades of Fertilizers including Nitrate of Soda.

USE NITRATE OF SODA

All authorities are agreed that soda pays well when used about cotton chopping time. Let's make the cotton crop pay this year. The surest way is to use Nitrate of Soda, and the place to buy it is—

THE CHATHAM OIL & FERTILIZER COMPANY
PITTSBORO, N. C.