

Horticulturist Declares County Ideal For Truck

Tells Of Truck Output In County And Points Way For Larger Development Of Truck Industry

LEADS IN SWEET POTATO PRODUCTION

Strawberries, Sweet Potato, Irish Potato, Pecans, Beans And Other Truck Crops In County

BY J. Y. LASSITER Extension Horticulturist N. C. State College

Columbus County—blessed with good truck soils, fine growing seasons, and people who believe in marketing high-quality products—has potential possibilities for almost unlimited expansion in horticultural crops.

The record already made with about 11,000 acres of truck and 500 bearing pecan tree shows that further expansion is justified. The increasing cooperation among business men, organizations, and farmers in building better marketing conditions points to a bright future. The chief crops are sweet potatoes, strawberries, snap beans, Irish potatoes, cucumbers, and pecans.

SWEET POTATOES LEADING Great progress has been made in the growing, harvesting, and marketing of sweet potatoes, the leading truck crop. Farmers, business men, and extension workers are becoming "quality conscious."

In 1944 Columbus County produced 4,650 acres of sweet potatoes which was the largest acreage of this crop in North Carolina. The growers, realizing the need for better seed stock, purchased 800 bushels of certified Louisiana strain Porto Rico seed from Louisiana through the cooperation of the State Department of Agriculture and the State College Extension Service. These seed stock were distributed among the sweet potato growers through the business men of Columbus County, who are also interested in better quality products.

MARKETING

Columbus County has the largest sweet potato storage capacity of any county in North Carolina and markets more bushels of properly graded, packed, and labeled sweet potatoes than any other shipping point in the world with the exception of Sunset, Louisiana.

Growers are learning, that to make money on their potatoes, they should: (1) grade or better should be placed on the market; (2) they do not wish to discard too many off-grade potatoes; (3) they are producing a larger percentage of the No. 1 grade by following the practices recommended by their local county farm agents.

These practices are as follows: (1) the use of certified Louisiana strain Porto Rico seed because of consumer preference for this seed; (2) bedding potatoes that have been hill selected and re-selected for size, shape, and color of both skin and flesh; (3) treating seed stocks to control seed-borne diseases; (4) selecting well-drained, sandy loam soils for the crop; (5) using 800 to 1,000 bushels per acre of a 3-9-9 fertilizer, stirred well into the soil before planting; (6) spacing rows to 35 feet wide, with plants to 12 inches in the row on a 12 to 14 inch ridge; (7) by re-planting to a full stand by frequent and shallow cultivations; (8) by harvesting before frost and avoiding bruising the potatoes; (9) storing in warm, dry, well-ventilated houses, or in covered tobacco warehouses and (10) proper grading, packing, and labeling, and, in some cases, washing and waxing.

Farmers who do not follow the improved practices find it difficult to sell their potatoes at profitable prices, or feed the potatoes to livestock. There is no consumer demand for poor quality potatoes.

This spring Columbus County growers, furnished certified Louisiana strain Porto Rico to other North Carolina counties at 34 per bushel at the shipping points. (Continued on page 2)

New Brick Warehouse Led Chadbourn Market In 1944

Conservation Of Soil Service Is Making Progress

Operations Were Begun In Columbus County Unit Of Cape Fear District In July Of Last Year

TILSY TELLS OF FARMER'S INTEREST

Columbus Farmers are Well Pleased With Service Rendered; Type Of Work Outlined

BY JOHN W. TILSY Soil Conservation Service

Operations were begun in the Columbus County Unit of the Lower Cape Fear Soil Conservation District in July, 1944. In the past year conservation surveys have been made on 55 farms and plans have been written on 40 of these farms. The first part of the year most of the work was done north of Whiteville. Since January 1, we have planned farms in the Iron Hill, Sandy Plain, Guideway, Fair Bluff, Carr's Gordo, Delco, and Taber City sections of the county.

In spite of the late start terraces were laid out for W. J. Fisher, H. G. Walters, C. E. Evans, L. L. Byrd, B. L. Martin, J. E. Bright, Roland Creech, Clarence Benton, V. C. Arnette, Jud Hooks, and J. H. White. In checking most of these terraces after the unusual rains the past month, I find the farmers well pleased with the terraces and vast amount of soil that has been saved. Some of them have asked how soon I can lay out more terraces for them.

Mr. Baldwin is well pleased with the 5 acres of pasture that the Lower Cape Fear Soil Conservation District helped him with. Mr. Baldwin applied 500 lbs. of superphosphate, 100 lbs. muriate of potash, and 1 ton of agricultural limestone per acre before he disked up an old Carpet grass pasture. Then he sowed 10 lbs. of Red Top or Herds grass, 15 lbs. of Kobe Lespedeza and 2 lbs. of white Dutch clover seed per acre. On one acre of sandy soil he sowed 25 lbs. of Bahia grass seed. The Soil Conservation Service furnished the Bahia grass seed for demonstration purposes to help determine its value in this section. Baldwin wanted to sow 10 lbs. of Dallis grass seed per acre in addition but the seed was not available. The dry weather after sowing was hard on the lespedeza but Mr. Baldwin is grazing 13 sheep, several cows, and a few hogs on the pasture.

W. J. Fisher, C. M. Fisher, J. H. White, and H. G. Walters applied some lime and fertilizer to their pasture. Bill Hooks thoroughly disked up one acre of a Carpet grass pasture, applied 600 lbs. of superphosphate and 100 lbs. of muriate of potash per acre, double disked the land again, ran a peanut weeder over it and sowed 30 lbs. of Lespedeza Sericea seed this spring. On July 21 the good stand of sericea was 10 to 14 inches high. Mr. Hooks figured it would cut around a ton of hay per acre. Just as soon as Mr. Hooks finishes with gathering his tobacco, he plans on turning the mules on the sericea. M. L. Inman and Dan High also sowed some lespedeza sericea on some badly eroded land. Each of them report a good stand. They didn't fertilize or lime the soil before the seed was sown, but they plan on applying fertilizer and lime later this fall.

V. C. Arnette and J. C. Hooks, Jr., each sowed a seed patch of lespedeza bi-color. Lespedeza bi-color furnishes cover and feed for quail and the flowers make excellent honey. It is a shrub perennial and after it is established, it will choke out briars and weeds. Bill Hooks ordered a truckload (Continued on Page 8)

Paid Highest Average Price On Market; Expects To Repeat Record This Year

PROPRIETORS HAVE 50 YEARS EXPERIENCE

Warehouse Has 42,000 Square Feet Of Floor Space; Warehouse Force Ready For Sales

CHADBOURN, July 30.—Dillard McMichael speaking for himself and his partner, Falk Carter, proprietors of the New Brick warehouse, wasn't bashful when he proudly stated that his warehouse led the market in paying the highest average to farmers last season. Neither was he boasting when he said that he expected to do the same this season. Both these experienced tobacco warehousemen are returning to the New Brick this season with an experienced staff of assistants who are equally determined to "lead the market and that the market will lead the belt."

Both Mr. Carter and Mr. McMichael are natives of Reidsville and operate warehouses there, however, their experience has been gained on other markets in the bright and middle belts too. These men know bright leaf tobacco and are rated excellent judges of it in any belt. They have a combined experience of 50 years in tobacco with Mr. Carter taking the lead with 30 years and Mr. McMichael following with 20 years to his credit.

The New Brick is a modern warehouse with approximately 42,000 square feet of floor space. Working with the proprietors this year will be Jim Long of Nakina, floor manager; George Finch, auctioneer, Charlie and Stick Rabon, weighmen; Sim Frink, floor man; Charlie Phipps, night floor manager; Willie Dutton, Bill Piver, Shady Ward and Spurgeon Nobles working on the floor in various capacities.

Conservation Of Forests Will Be Great Imperative

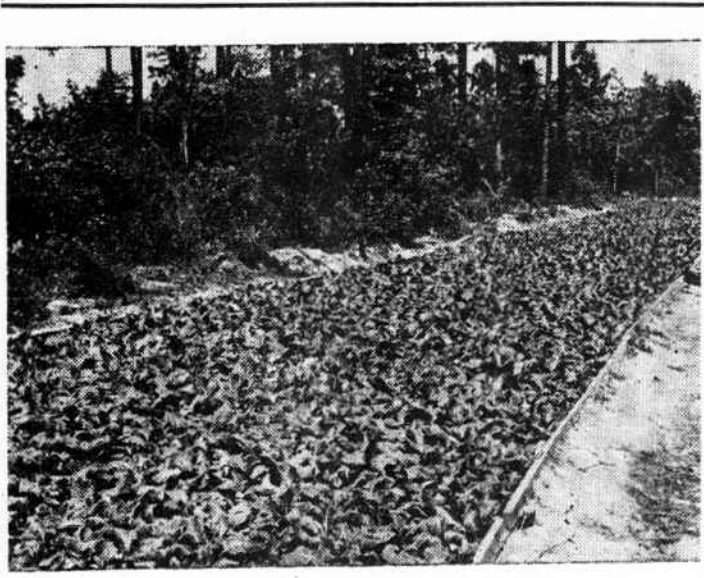
After War Timberland Owners Must Choose One Of Two Courses, Conservation Or Devastation

At war's end, the South's forest resource will be at a dangerous new low.

Timberland owners will be at the crossroads of widely divergent courses. One road leads to conservation and increased timber growth. The other way heads toward continued devastation and final ruin. Along the conservation route, there is prosperity, jobs and ample wood resource. Inadequate timber supplies, unemployment and poverty stalk the other path. For generations timber products have held a foremost place in the South's economy, providing a livelihood for hundreds of thousands of our citizens. When war came, the forests of the South provided a substantial part of the material required for national defense.

Never before has the average citizen been so fully aware of the vital importance of our forest resource. With nearly 200 million acres of potentially productive forest land, the South has a resource capable of supporting its present timber industries. But these industries cannot be maintained unless our forest lands are kept growing timber at something like their full growing capacity. Even fast-growing Southern forests will cease to produce if cut too heavily, turned too often. Too much cutting in the past has been done without regard for the future. The best trees have been cut out, the poorer species left to take over the land. Too often nothing has been left to grow or furnish seed for a new crop. Too many immature stands have been cut when they were in their fastest growth. Far too many fires have swept away the (Continued on Page 3)

Golden Weed Culture



Pictured top above is the first bed of tobacco in Columbus county treated for blue mold. It is on the farm of Bill Hooks. Since the treatment of this first bed, marked success has been achieved throughout the county in the control of this dread enemy of tobacco plants. Below is a field of tobacco on the farm of J. L. Harrelson. The men in the picture are his two sons and a tenant farmer.

Carter's House To Be Run By Sam Beasley This Season

Has Had Fifteen Years Experience In Selling Tobacco In Bright And Burley Belts

MAKES IMPROVEMENTS IN WAREHOUSE FLOOR

Captain George Finch Will Be Auctioneer; Warehouse Force Are Able To Handle Tobacco

CHADBOURN, July 30.—Although this is his first year as proprietor of the Carter warehouse, Sam Beasley is no stranger to farmers selling tobacco in Chadbourn. He was with the New Brick warehouse last season and will go from Chadbourn to Sanford at the close of the season to operate a warehouse there. He has a total of 15 years experience in tobacco selling in both the bright belt and the burley belt. Since taking over the Carter warehouse Mr. Beasley has been busy working on improvements in the house to lead to more efficient handling of the farmers' tobacco. He has given the matter much thought and believes his ideas will prove beneficial to the farmers patronizing his house this season.

Like all the other houses on the Chadbourn market the Carter warehouse will get a sale every sale day. Under this system of selling each warehouseman can tell his customers exactly when each warehouse will get a sale and when his tobacco will be sold. Assisting Mr. Beasley on sales at the Carter warehouse will be Y. W. Lea of Sanford, who will follow the sale as Mr. Beasley leads it. Capt. George Finch will chant the auctioneer's song and G. T. Bullard will serve in the capacity of floor manager with A. W. Tynes as his assistant. Joe Edmunds will be a floorman as will Z. V. Williamson and George Nance. George McDaniel, Wilbur Rabon and Bob Meares be weighmen.

LABOR DAY HOLIDAY

CHADBOURN, July 30.—According to a letter from J. L. Parker, secy-treas. of the Tobacco Association of the United States to D. M. Carter, sales supervisor here, Labor Day, Monday, Sept. 3, will be observed as a holiday in all tobacco sales warehouses in the South Carolina and other tobacco belts in operation on that date. Mr. Carter said that no sales will be held in Chadbourn on that date.

Australian money follows the English system of pounds, shillings and pence. Australia has about 3,000,000 square miles of land, and about 7,000,000 people. (Continued on Page 8)

Chadbourn Warehouses Ready For Opening Sales

Sold More Than Eight Million Pounds Of Tobacco Last Year; Looking For Greater Sales In 1945

CHADBOURN PROUD OF ITS MARKET

Three Warehouses Are Operated By Experienced Warehousemen And Competent Salesmen And Warehouse Forces

CHADBOURN, July 30.—The cry of the tobacco auctioneer will be heard here Wednesday, August 1st, when the 1945 tobacco sales season starts in the Myers warehouse, but before the day is done the other two warehouses, the Carter and New Brick, will also have sold some of the "Golden Weed" for their hundreds of customers who will be on hand to "try out" the prices for this year's offerings.

Chadbourn is proud of its market, the second oldest market in the county, and one of the oldest markets in the Border Belt, and justly so. It has a splendid record of service to the farmer and this year is catering especially to its "home-folks" farmers, according to D. M. Carter, market sales supervisor, who extends a most cordial welcome to farmers and tobacco growers to the Chadbourn market. Mr. Carter is an experienced tobacco man himself and has been connected with tobacco sales markets for many years, and although he has lived in Chadbourn many years this is his second season as supervisor of the local market.

With sales of over eight million pounds this past season, warehousemen and market officials are looking forward to handling even more pounds this season, made possible through the new selling system adopted by warehousemen and the buying companies. The market has set its sights on ten million pounds this year.

Chadbourn's three modern warehouses are operated by experienced warehousemen with competent sales and warehouse forces. At the New Brick warehouse again this year is Falk Carter and Dillon McMichael, at the Carter's is Sam Beasley and at the Myers is T. O. Wilkinson, who returns for another year. These men are not strangers to farmers selling tobacco in Chadbourn; they have proven to their customers that "grade by grade, they're better paid" in Chadbourn.

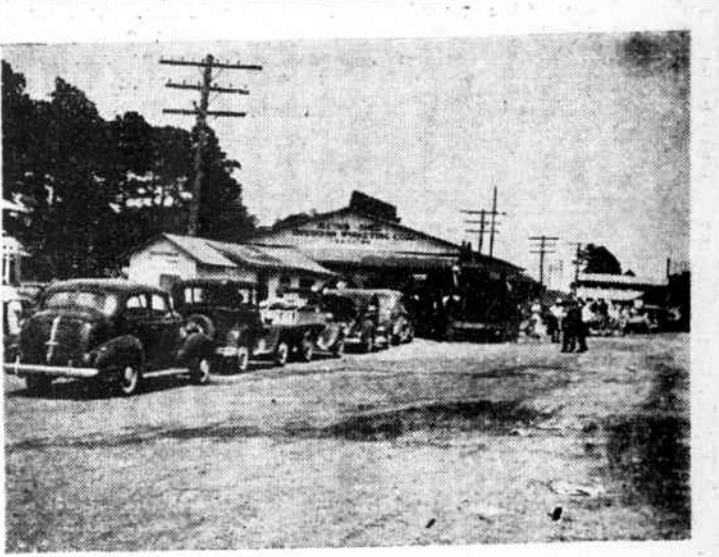
To make selling tobacco in Chadbourn even more attractive are the many fine merchants and other business houses who do all in their power to make their customers and farmer friends enjoy their visit to this fast growing market. Chadbourn's stores are stocked with splendid merchandise values and the local bank stands ready to lend the market's patrons every assistance. The bank will remain open until after sales end each day to cash the farmers' tobacco checks. The tobacco market has the complete backing and cooperation of the town's merchants and business people and join the tobaccoconsists in extending a cordial welcome to sell tobacco in Chadbourn.

All the big buying companies are represented on the Chadbourn market, including both independent and domestic companies. Each has ample price and packing houses to take care of each day's sale, a fact which added to many other reasons for Chadbourn's poundage of tobacco sold more than doubling in the past two years. The buyers, warehousemen and businessmen in Chadbourn are all especially interested in the market's service to the farmers all of which contributes to its remarkable growth.

Chadbourn's tobacco market is in all readiness for the reception of tobacco and all people concerned with the town's market extend a most cordial welcome to all farmers and their families.

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Chadbourn Strawberry Market



Pictured above is a familiar scene on the Chadbourn strawberry market with trucks and cars laden with the delicious fruit waiting their turn with the auctioneer and buyers under the strawberry market shed. Chadbourn was once the largest strawberry market in the world and still holds an enviable record in the marketing of the famous Klondykes.

Myers Warehouse Is Oldest One On Chadbourn Market

Many Of Present Customers Of Warehouse Once Came With Their Parents To Sell Tobacco

AGAIN OPERATED BY T. O. WILKINSON

Staff Of Competent Helpers Assembled By Mr. Wilkinson; Garland Griffin Auctioneer

CHADBOURN, July 30.—Myers tobacco warehouse, the oldest warehouse on the Chadbourn market, which is said to be the second oldest market in Columbus county, will be operated again this year by T. O. Wilkinson of South Boston, Va.

The Myers warehouse is no stranger to tobacco growers as many of its customers of today used to come there with their parents to sell their tobacco when they were children. Mr. Wilkinson is no newcomer to this tobacco section. He operated the Myers warehouse in Chadbourn last season and has operated two warehouses in South Boston, Va., for several years. Prior to his entrance into the warehouse business, he bought tobacco on Border belt markets for Export and other large tobacco buying companies. To say that he knows tobacco is putting it mildly—it is second nature with him. Mr. Wilkinson and his long years of experience, plus the many enviable years of service to tobacco growers of the Myers warehouse, form a team that assures tobacco growers of the "best in the business."

Mr. Wilkinson has assembled a competent staff of warehouse help to assist him in the sale of tobacco this season. He will lead the sale at his house and will open the season Wednesday with a first sale. Bill Piver is floor manager and J. E. McLennon of Danville, Va., with 14 years in the business will be floor man. Garland Griffin will auction the golden leaf while Cliff Thomas will follow the sale in the role of clipman J. R. Eubanks will have charge of the office as bookkeeper and Bronnie Bullard will weigh the tobacco with the assistance of Bud Stevens. Henry Blair will perform many duties as a floor man.

All in all the famous old Myers warehouse with Mr. Wilkinson at the helm looks forward to even bettering its past fine record of service and top prices to those who patronize it this season.

BOONE GOES TO FAIR BLUFF J. D. (Jack) Boone has recently purchased the plant of the Fair Bluff Dry Cleaning Company and has taken over its active management. Mr. Boone knows the business from the pencil to the press he having spent more than 20 years in the Dry cleaning business in various towns and cities. Operations of the Fair Bluff plant will continue at the old location on Main street. (Continued on Page 2)

Chadbourn Once Had Leaf Stemmer

Many people know it today and even fewer remember it but, according to D. M. Carter, sales supervisor of the Chadbourn tobacco market, the Imperial Tobacco Co. once operated a tobacco stemmer in Chadbourn for a period of two years in the early history of the local market.

Mr. Carter states that the stemmer worked about 400 people and very probably would have been in operation in Chadbourn today except for a bad turn events took. The plant, a huge affair, was later built in Fairmont, where it is in operation now.

Cape Fear Soil Conservationists In Summer Meet

Make Tour Through Coastal Plain Soil Conservation District; Business Session Held

BY M. L. INMAN, Secretary Board of District Supervisors

The district supervisors of the Lower Cape Fear Soil Conservation District held their summer meeting on June 5 and 6 in the form of a tour through the Coastal Plain Soil Conservation District. The following supervisors were present: V. C. Arnette and M. L. Inman of Columbus County, A. B. Herring of Pender county, and Gilbert T. Reid of Brunswick county.

The chairman, D. C. Harrelson of Bladen county was unable to take the trip due to illness. The county agents in the district were invited to take the trip. C. D. Raper, from Columbus County, and R. R. Rich, from Jender County, accepted the invitation. The group was accompanied by H. M. Scott, District Conservationist of Whiteville. The group was met in Rocky Mount at noon on June 5 by S. L. Doughtridge, District Conservationist of Greenville. During the afternoon several farms were visited in Edgecombe County where a variety of conservation practices and crops were studied, including terracing, contour tillage, tile drainage, pasture improvement, black locust for fence post, kudzu, sericea, and alfalfa. The group spent Tuesday night in Greenville. Most of the day was devoted to a study of the tile drainage which has Fair Bluff Dry Cleaning Company and has taken over its active management. Mr. Boone knows the business from the pencil to the press he having spent more than 20 years in the Dry cleaning business in various towns and cities. Operations of the Fair Bluff plant will continue at the old location on Main street. (Continued on Page 2)