

Farm Review & Forecast

ASCS News Notes-

By BEN MANN, Office Manager
Northampton County ASC Office

Cotton Lease and Transfer—All cotton allotments that are transferred from one farm to another by lease or sale must be filed in the county office where the cotton allotment originated not later than January 3, 1966. The county office is maintaining a list of those cotton producers that are interested in disposing of their allotment by lease or sale; and also of those producers that desire to acquire additional allotment by lease or purchase.

Final lists will be exchanged among cotton counties in North Carolina as of December 23, 1965. A farm owner or operator may transfer cotton allotment to another farm he operates if the transfer would assist him in taking advantage of program provisions that would be of greater benefit to him. The farm owner must sign the agreement if the cotton is to leave his farm. This can be done on a year-to-year basis.

Cotton Projected Yields—All cotton farmers have been notified of their 1966 cotton projected yield. This notification was for information only and does not carry the right to appeal. The official notices will be mailed during early January and then producers will have 15 days from the date of the official notice to file an appeal with the County Committee if they do not believe their projected yield is correct.

Farmers may file an appeal on the basis that the projected yield for their farm is not set according to their productivity based on a relationship with their neighbor's farm, or they may appeal the projected yield on the basis that they can submit to the County Committee substantial evidence such as a combination of gin records and sales records for the years 1962, 1963 and 1964. A yield that is proved for these years would be set accordingly by the County Committee.

Skip-Row Cotton—The Department of Agriculture has announced changes in skip-row planting procedures for the 1966 cotton crop. As an example of this change, an area being planted to cotton on a two row cotton row-skip pattern would be charged as .86 2/3 per cent cotton in 1966 whereas under the old procedure it was classified as 66 2/3 per cent cotton. Any farmer planning to use the skip-row pattern in 1966 should contact the county office for full details before the planting operation begins.

Cropland Adjustment Program—A cropland retirement program that will involve retirement of an

individual farm commodity allotment or base or all cropland under a particular farm contract will be in effect for 1966. Payment rates will be computed on the basis of the normal or projected yield for each allotment or base. Land retired under this program must be for a minimum of five years or a maximum of 10 years. The county office will begin receiving applications for this program about the middle of January 1966.

Office News—Mrs. Mary Turner, counter and ACP clerk, is a patient in Roanoke Rapids Hospital where she recently underwent surgery. We wish for Mary a speedy recovery and hope that she will soon be back at her desk in the county office.

New Developments In Soil Testing Procedures

JACKSON—Six thousand, three hundred and sixteen soil samples were received in October and 12,974 in November. This is an all time record. Last year, we received 3,658 and 77,724 respectively for these two months. December also is expected to be a good month. This trend toward earlier sampling is most encouraging, states Agricultural Agent B. H. Harrell, as the soil testing laboratory can do much more work during the fall months of September through December; whereas, they can do very little more during the winter months due to their being at a maximum output of 800-900 samples per day or about 15,000 per month.

Extra laboratory and clerical help has been employed to cope with the large number of samples that are expected between now and April. This increases the soil testing staff from the regular staff of 23 to 30. The laboratory has acquired a new flame photometer instrument for checking potash level in soils. Two new atomic absorption spectrophotometers are being used for checking calcium, magnesium and manganese levels in soils. Atomic absorption represents a recent development that can be used to more accurately measure chemical elements present in soil extract solutions.

Another, not so new, development in soil testing is the need for keeping records of soil test results, lime and fertilizer applications and crop yields. The Soil Testing Division has sheets

Will Hold Modern Farming Short Course In Raleigh

RALEIGH—More than 100 young farmers will return to college for two weeks in January and February for a first-hand look at "modern farming."

The 14th annual Modern Farming Short Course will be held at North Carolina State University at Raleigh January 24 through February 4 and will involve all departments of the School of Agriculture and Life Sciences.

The young farmers, selected in their home counties, will come to the State campus to see for themselves the facilities of the school and the new ways and means of doing things in agriculture.

The program will cover broad areas of general agriculture and include pesticide safety, farm credit, water resources, for-

Each of the students will receive a scholarship from his local banker as part of the overall promotion of the short course by the N. C. Bankers Association, dairy, livestock and many other special subjects.

Students will then be allowed to select special interest areas and receive intensified instruction in this area. Each student will attend class from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. on weekdays.

The scholarships will be awarded at the local level and applicants must have their applications in the hands of the county committee by January 5. The committee will make a choice no later than January 12.

Persons eligible for the award must meet certain requirements such as planning to work on the farm or in a related agricultural business.

VIRGINIA, Minn.—When Mrs. David Carlson, 18, got a chicken bone lodged in her throat, she could not get to the hospital because of a snow-blocked road. One neighbor bull-dozed through the drifts, another drove her to the hospital, while a deputy drove to a nearby town for a doctor who removed the bone.

NORTHAMPTON COUNTY Soil Conservation Notes

By JOHN B. LITCHFIELD
Soil Conservation Service

A few weeks ago Mitchell E. Lewis of Roanoke Rapids applied to the Northampton Soil and Water Conservation District for help in working out a conservation plan for his farm. He is making a start on the erosion control phase of this plan now.

Last week Soil Conservation Service technicians H. R. Bryant and J. R. Britton helped him lay out 4,800 feet of parallel terraces and three grassed waterways. He will use large earth moving equipment to do the necessary land shaping. This will include cutting down high spots and filling in gullies to make the fields smooth enough for parallel terraces to work properly. When the necessary land shaping is done he can use the same equipment to build his terraces or he can build them with a farm tractor and plows.

The complete conservation plan will include terraces and contour farming for all the sloping land. It will also include cropping systems designed to fit the capability of the land along with other needed practices. The woodlands will be included in the plan as well as the open land.

Bryant Boone of Pendleton applied to the District last week for help in working out a conservation plan for his farm.

Henry and Billy Britton of Seaboard are working on a part of their conservation plan now. They have a bulldozer clearing the stumps and other growth from an old ditch. This ditch will be reshaped and converted into a grassed waterway to handle surface water from adjoining fields. Drain tile will be installed to take care of needed drainage.

They have seeded small grain and fescue in one of their fields as a start on a grass based rotation. The fescue will be installed to continue growing after the grain is removed.

Frank DeLoach of Jackson completed building 5900 feet of parallel terraces on his farm last week. The terraces were built with his own tractors and breaking plows. They were designed and laid out to be worked with four-row equipment. He has found that terraces he built last year worked very satisfactorily. Large earth moving equipment was hired to cut out a grassed waterway and do some land shaping.

It's Time To Lime

JACKSON—Why so early? Lime takes time to react with the soil; therefore, it should be applied as far in advance of planting as possible to give maximum response for next year's crops. All-weather conditions are usually better for spreading lime in the fall or early winter than they are in the spring. Since limes do not move readily in the soil it should be well mixed with plow layer for best and quickest results. Applying it before breaking the land is a good practice to follow.

Now is a good time to apply lime to your fields for next year's crops, if you haven't already done so reminds B. H. Harrell, county extension chairman. But first have your soils tested to determine how much, if any, lime is needed warns Mr. Harrell because too much lime can be just as bad as too little. A soil test is the only way to accurately determine lime needs, so why guess and take a chance of applying too much or too little.

A good liming program is essential for top yields and profit so be certain to apply the right

amount of lime to each field before planting your next crop. Have your soil tested now so lime can be applied early. Soil sampling supplies can be picked up at your county agricultural workers offices.

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By GEORGIA POWELL
Mrs. A. L. Lassiter spent the weekend in Murfreesboro with Mr. and Mrs. Bob Hill and family.

Mrs. Jimmy Murphy and family of Ahsokie were Saturday visitors of her mother, Mrs. E. B. Lassiter.

Mrs. Ruby Draper of Windsor visited Mrs. Virgie Powell Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Pierce and boys of Ahsokie recently visited Mr. and Mrs. Claude Cooke. Mrs. Beatrice Connor of Henderson is spending several days with her son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Beale, Jr.

James Daugherty of Charlotte spent the weekend with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Seth Daugherty.

Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Futrell and daughter of Tarboro visited his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Simon Futrell, and also his grandmother, Mr. Luter Futrell, during the weekend. Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Woodard of Newport News, Va., and Mr. and Mrs. David Woodard of Jackson visited their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Woodard Sunday. Mr. and Mrs. Holland Brown and daughter of Franklin, Va., spent the weekend with Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Beale.

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January 1 Will Bring PKU Routine Tests For Babies

RALEIGH—Beginning January 1 every baby born in a North Carolina hospital will be given PKU test through blood sampling. This type sampling will replace the diaper test in use for the past two years and will differ from current practice in that it will be routine. A small service charge for the blood test will be made by the hospital but analysis of the sample will be a free service of the State Board of Health, Laboratory Division.

The PKU (phenylketonuria) test is a test to discover metabolic irregularities in newborn infants which result in feeble-mindedness or other irregularities of the brain.

North Carolina hospital administrators have been notified of the routine testing program. Blood samples will be applied to a special type paper disk at the hospital and mailed to Raleigh for analysis. Results will be sent to the hospital.

Dr. Quinton E. Cooke, Hertford-Gates health director, said PKU screening through diaper tests has been in effect in this district for two years. He reported no positive results. Blanton said no irregularities have been discovered through tests administered at the hospital.

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Cooperator—Allen Dickens Gaston, N. C.
Soil Series—Norfolk Sandy Loam
Soil Analysis—pH—5.9; Co.—L; P $\frac{1}{2}$ Q—M;
K O—M; OM—0.8
Fertilization—400 lbs. 0-10-20 per acre
Method of Application—Broadcast after breaking
Rotation—Corn 1964; Peanuts 1963
Nematode Assay—Root Knot—0; Lance—200
Seed Source—Foundation Florigiant
Seed Rate—100 lbs. per acre
Seed Treatment—Thiram; Molybdenum
Row Spacing—36"
Date Planted—May 1, 1965
Soil Treatment—7 lbs. 10% Thimet in boot with seed

Herbicide Used—2 lbs. Vernom
Method of Application—Broadcast and disced twice
Disease and Insect Control—
Leafspot—5 applications of copper sulfur with insecticide
1 application of copper sulfur with Boron
Rootworm—15 lbs. 10% Diazinon 2nd week in July
Landplaster—2 applications 500 lbs. each
1st—last week in June
2nd—second week July
Cultivation—1—rotary hoe
1—gang cultivation
Date Harvested—September 27
Yield—5,110 lbs. net weight
Grade—\$13.48 per cwt.
Gross Value \$688.82

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OFFICE FOR FURTHER INFORMATION.