

Edgecombe Farmer Lives at Home

Whitakers, N. C., Nov. 29.—The recent break in the price of cotton brings to light that many North Carolina farmers supposedly making their entire cash income from cotton are living at home and are not tremendously worried about the future.

Such a farmer is J. Luther Brake who lives near Rocky Mount in liveb mm

Edgecombe County. Mr. Brake began farming 17 years ago at the age of 21 when his father gave him 47 acres of land. He built an unpretentious little home, married and started out to make a living. The home has always been kept spotless and clean and the farm will be balanced with money and food crops. The excess of the food and feed crops has been sold for cash.

Mr. Brake has never planted more than three to five acres of cotton, about what tobacco he could handle safely and has always had a year around garden, a few cows, chickens, and some hogs. He has grown some truck crops to add to his income, especially sweet potatoes of excellent quality. His cured meats are noted for their quality as well as his surplus butter and milk. It is against the law of the Brake clan to by feed and Mr. Brake has always produced on the home farm what his stock needs for food. Soil improvement, too, is practiced on this farm. Mr. Brake grows Bur and Crimson clover, some velvet beans and soybeans, and while he is making a good income he is also improving his land. According to County Agent Zen

Moore, with whom Mr. Brake has always worked, a new and more commodious home has been built, two small tracts of land were recently added to the farm and Mr. Brake had enough cash to pay down that he would not be embarrassed by his purchase. He has always lived independently of debt and states that prosperity and comfort for farmers may be obtained by the "live-at-home" plan as advocated by the workers of the Agricultural Extension Service.

Ashe County Grows Fine Quality Sheep

Raleigh, N. C., Nov. 29.—Ashe County is one of the best naturally adapted livestock sections in North Carolina according to Prof. R. S. Curtis of the animal husbandry department at State College, who recently spent a week in this county with the farm agent E. C. Turner, Junior, holding a series of meetings in the interest of beef cattle production.

Mr. Curtis has been studying livestock conditions over North Carolina for about fifteen years and during that time, he has traveled over all

parts of North Carolina. His work has carried him to Ashe County many times, and he states that the county has always had fine beef cattle and excellent sheep. There are now some 18,000 head of sheep listed on the tax books of the county. Nearly all of these animals are highly bred because the growers have used pure bred rams for many years.

"In my opinion, the sheep of Ashe County will compare favorably with the sheep of Ohio," says Prof. Curtis. "Ohio has long been rated as one of the best sheep producing states on the Continent considering the matter from the farm standpoint. I have found the sheep in Ashe County to be of just as good quality and to produce just as good

wool as those from the Buckeye State."

Prof. Curtis states that there has been a slackening of interest in beef cattle in the mountain section because of the low prices for beef during the past few years. A number of old beef cattle growers have gone into the dairy business but there now appears to be an awakening of interest in this work also and some of the more favorably located landowners will begin to give more attention to beef cattle. However that may be, he states, it is generally accepted that the sheep industry is on a firm footing and will expand greatly in the next two or three years.

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