

# A. S. C. NEWS

By MIRIAM AUSBON

In order to achieve full participation in the Conservation Reserve phase of the Soil Bank Program, we will get information in the hands of the farmers just as soon as it is possible. The enclosed material covers all information now available on the program. This material should give farmers some basis on which to make a decision as to whether or not they will participate this year.

The conservation Reserve part of the Soil Bank will be in operation in this county this year. In fact, we have been told that first instructions to ASC County Office employees may go out around the middle of next month. It is hoped that many farmers when given the opportunity, will sign contracts and start conservation practices during this crop year.

Through the Conservation Re-

serve, farmers have an opportunity to receive substantial government assistance for long-term conservation work on their farms. A farmer wanting to participate will sign up at the County ASC Office and will agree to remove land from production of crops and devote it exclusively to conservation practices. Land producing tame hay in regular rotation and pasture is also eligible for the program. The farmer will be paid most of what it costs to establish cover and also an annual payment to compensate him for keeping the land out of production. On the use of land in the Conservation Reserve, a farmer who signs a contract to participate in the Conservation Reserve will agree to establish and maintain protective cover (grasses, legumes or trees), water storage, or some other approved conservation practice on designated acres; to maintain normal acreage of conservation and idle land on his farm, he will agree not to harvest any crop from these acres, except timber in keeping with good forestry management, and not to pasture these acres before January 1, 1959. Finally, he will agree not to use any practice defeating the purpose of the contract, for example, divert land now in conservation or woods, to a use prohibited by the Secretary of Agriculture.

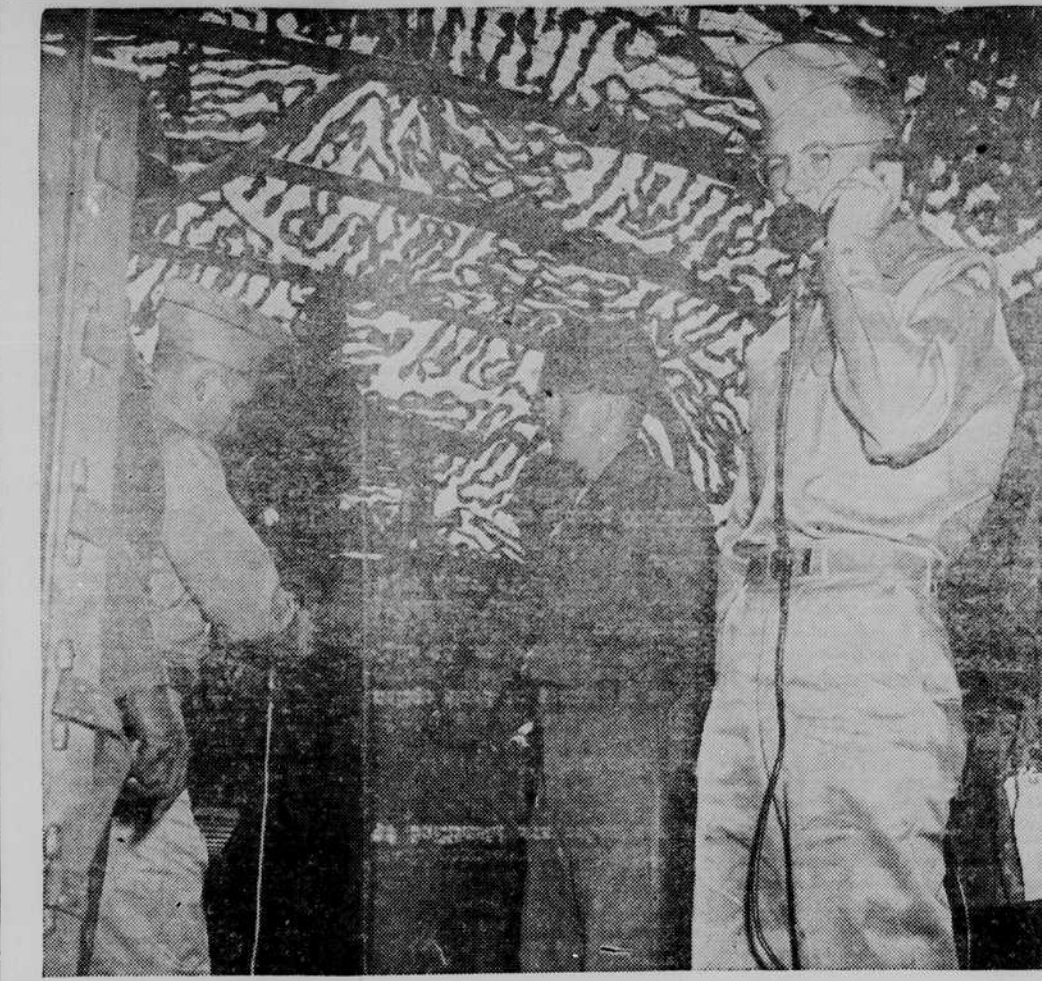
A farmer will receive an initial payment of about 80 per cent of his costs in establishing grasses and legumes, these costs could include land preparation, seed and seeding, inoculation, liming, and fertilizing. To establish trees, costs could include preparing the land, tree seedlings, seed, cuttings and shrubs. Other material and labor used in conservation, include water storage, are also eligible for cost sharing. Most of the practice payments will be made during the first year of the contract.

In addition to this initial conservation practice payment, a participating farmer will also receive payments each year for the length of the contract to compensate him for taking land out of crop and livestock production. This annual payment begins with the first year, as cited in the contract. In determining the annual payment to a farmer, these factors will be considered: Value of the land for producing crops, rates of land rent in the area, and necessary incentive to encourage participation.

The minimum Conservation Reserve contract is for 3 years; the maximum for 10 years. Contracts for tree cover, however, may extend for 15 years, and 3-year contracts apply only to land which will be continued in vegetative cover.

In order to be eligible for participation in the Conservation Reserve, farmers must be in compliance with their acreage allotments or their corn base acreages in commercial corn counties. The rights of tenants and sharecroppers for participation in the program will be protected the same as with the Acreage Reserve Program. ASC employees will make on-the-farm checks to see that farmers have complied with requirements for participating in the Reserve Program.

The Conservation Reserve part of the Soil Bank Program is in addition to our AC Program, which has been in operation for 20 years. The Soil Bank program and the ACP are complementary—not competing programs. We hope our farmers will still participate in the ACP at least to the extent that



**ON-JOB TRAINING**—Second Lieutenant Lee Z. Nielsen of Elba, Neb., taking his turn as battery executive officer, checks the breechblock of a 155mm howitzer as Second Lieutenant William F. Quinn of Collingdale, Pa., acting safety officer, talks with battery headquarters on the field phone. Both Reserve officers on active duty for six months, they are learning while working with the 41st Field Artillery Group at Fort Sill, Okla., after completing the Officers Basic Course.

## MARKET REPORT

By CURTIS F. TARTON, Marketing Specialist  
North Carolina Department of Agriculture

Editor's Note: Following is a summary of market price information for the week ending July 27, 1956, as gathered and edited by the Market News Service of the N. C. Department of Agriculture.

Reversing the weaker price trend of last week, fryers and broilers strengthened this week and closing farm sales were reported at 19 to 20 cents per pound. In the North Georgia section, the prices were one cent higher on Friday and the trade there quoted sales at 19 1/2 to 20. Most prices, however, were at 20. Delmarva closed about steady at 20 1/4 to 20 3/4, and mostly 20 1/4 to 20 1/2. The Shenandoah Valley was steady at 19 1/2 to 20, and mostly 20 cents.

Heavy hens were fully steady in North Carolina during the week and prices were quoted at 16 1/2 to 19, mostly 17 to 18 cents per pound on Friday.

Eggs were steady following an advance in Raleigh. A large closed at 46 cents per dozen; A, mediums at 40 cents; and B, large 35. Durham reported A, large ranging from 42 to 47 cents; A, mediums 37 to 40; and B, large 34 to 36 cents. Charlotte reported eggs 2 cents per dozen higher and A, large brought 45 to 46 1/2; and A, mediums 36 to 39 cents per dozen.

Hog prices advanced 25 to 50 cents per hundred at the Carolina buying stations this week and closing tops were quoted at 16.50 to 17.50 per hundred. In Chicago, hogs were mostly 50 to 75 higher and tops closed at 16.75 to 17.00.

They have in the past. The Conservation Reserve program is not yet available. When this program is available, announcement will be made by this office.

Very active cattle trading marked the first of the week in Chicago. Feeder steers and yearlings closed 1.00 to 2.50 higher than last week on good and better grades, while lower grades sold unevenly steady to 1.00 higher. Heifers advanced .75 to 1.50 for good grades and better; while standard to low good were up 25 to .75 cents. Cows closed 25 to 50 higher; bulls mainly steady and vealers steady. The bulk choice and high prime heifers sold from 22.00 to 24.25; good to low choice 20.00-21.75 and standard to low good 16.00 to 19.75. Utility and commercial cows also brought 10.75 to 13.25; and utility to commercial bulls 14.00 to 15.75. Good and choice vealers closed at 20.00 to 23.00.

Grain prices were generally steady at Piedmont and eastern North Carolina markets during the week. No. 2 yellow shelled corn ranged from 1.50 to 1.60 in the eastern area; and brought mostly 1.70 per bushel in the Piedmont section. No. 2 white corn was quoted at 1.30 to 1.35 per bushel. No. 2 red winter wheat brought 1.90 to mostly 2.00 per bushel; and No. 2 red oats .60 to mostly .64 cents per bushel. No. 2 milo was quoted at 2.25 per hundred pounds at Piedmont points.

Cattle prices were fully steady to stronger at the Rich Square and Rocky Mount auctions. Utility to commercial steers ranged from 12.00 to 17.00; and utility to commercial heifers 12.00 to 16.50. Good and choice vealers ranged from 21.00 to 23.50; and good and choice butcher calves 18.00 to 20.00. Utility to commercial cows were reported at 10.00 to 15.25; and utility to commercial bulls 12.00 to 15.00.

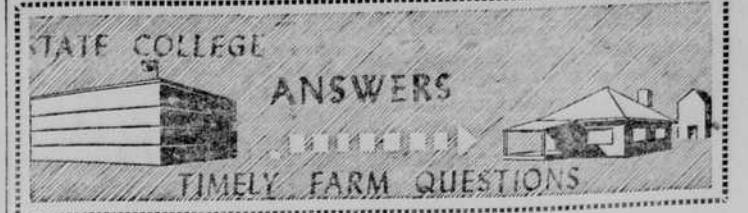
Eastern Carolina auction markets were closed again Thursday and Friday. However, on Wednesday bushels of pepper brought mostly 1.20 at Wallace; 1.00 to 1.35 at Clinton; and 1.25 to 1.65 at Faison. Eggplant were quoted at 2.25 to 2.75 per bushel; and half bushels of okra from 1.00 to 2.50.

Peaches were about steady in New York during the week. Half-bushels of Sun-highs 2 inches and up brought 3.00, while Elbertas 2 1/4 inches up were quoted at 2.75. Peppers were weaker and bushels of bullnose type ranged from 2.50 to 3.00.

The price of cotton declined 5.35 per bale on the nation's 14 leading markets this week and middling 15/16 inch averaged 32.98 cents per pound on Friday. This compares with 34.05 last week and with 33.67 on the corresponding date a year ago.

### Farm Cash Receipts

Cash receipts from farm markets in North Carolina amounted to \$36,830,000 during the calendar year of 1955 and exceeded similar receipts for 1954 by about 1 per cent.



**Question:** How long should I cool eggs before taking them to market?  
**Answer:** Eggs should be left in a cool, moist egg room overnight for best flavor. If the temperature of the egg room is 60 degrees, and the air isn't circulating, it will take about six to seven hours to get the eggs down to this temperature.

**Answer:** Start treating for boll weevils when the infestation reaches 10 per cent. Continue treating every five days as long as the infestation remains that high.

**Question:** How can you get rid of Bermuda grass in a flower bed?  
**Answer:** Once Bermuda grass gets into a flower bed it has to be removed by hand. Any chemical that will kill Bermuda will also kill flowers or shrubs. However, you can neither remove Bermuda by treating with Methyl Bromide, by removing all roots by hand, or by treating with "Atalade," Dala-pon, or T. C. A. If these materials are used, it will be several months before soil is productive.

**Oil Gusher In Yard Proves To Be Pipe**  
Los Angeles.—George Argentin thought he had an oil gusher in his yard when black stuff bubbled up through his front lawn. After an estimated 300 barrels had spouted, it was found to be from a broken oil pipeline belonging to the Standard Oil Company. The "gusher" was pinched off by a company crew.

**Question:** When should I start treating for boll weevils and how long should I dust?

**Wheat Acreage**  
Total acreage of wheat in the United States is expected to reach 59.8 million in 1956—an increase of 1 1/2 million acres over last year's crop.

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