

MACON COUNTY AGRICULTURE

KEEP BEES FOR FRUIT OR HONEY

Bee's Greatest Function Is Said to Be Its Help to Agriculture

AID TO ORCHARDISTS

Pollination of Flowers of Fruit Dependent On Faithful Insect

The average person thinks of bees in terms of honey, but leading scientists tell us the bee's greatest function is its service to agriculture. One expert says the honey-bee is of more value for the service it performs in pollinating fruit and other flowers than for the honey it produces. Commercial bee keeping is a profitable enterprise in some sections.

A few colonies of bees can be supported by local plants in almost all communities. Bees make a very profitable sideline hobby for the farmer or persons having backyard space in towns and cities. A half dozen colonies will give a nice net return for the honey alone, to say nothing of their value as agents in pollinating fruit and vegetable flowers. Bees are not difficult to handle, particularly the "Italian" strain, and few living things offer more interesting studies and diversions than bees.

The flowers of most of our fruits are sterile, so far as self-pollination is concerned, and we recognize two agents in cross-pollination. One is the wind which, until recent years has had its value much overestimated. The wind is chiefly effective in cross-pollinating flowers with dry, dusty, powdery pollen, like grasses and grains. The pollen of fruit flowers is heavier, sticky, and often of a gummy nature requiring other means of pollination.

Bees rank first among all our pollinating insects, and orchardists are now realizing the true value of bees in connection with successful fruit production. Most of them keep bees in or near orchards, more to aid in pollinating flowers than for honey production, but the honey is usually a profitable sideline of the business.

Unfortunately spraying at the wrong time kills thousands of our honeybees. If spray recommendations and calendars are followed little damage will result to bees. Never spray when plants are in full bloom. Sometimes nectar-producing plants are grown as cover crops in which cases the spray should be carefully applied to prevent poisoning the cover crop flowers and the resultant loss of bees which in bad, stormy, cold weather at bloom periods, when bees are not very active anyway, is serious. Such crops as buckwheat, alsike, sweet clovers, cotton, tomato, melon, cranberry, etc., are largely dependent on bees for full crops. Where tomatoes, and

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How's the Above For Pork?

It's one thing to talk about why and how "They" ought to grow hogs, but it's quite another matter to grow them for yourself.

BURLEY TOBACCO GROWERS WILL NEVER HAVE STABILITY IN PRICES UNLESS THEY ACT COLLECTIVELY

Lespedeza Seed Are Quoted at \$3.50 Bushel
Monroe, N. C.
Jan. 29, 1930.

Dear Sir:
Quote you common lespedeza seed at \$3.50 per bushel, any quantity, F. O. B. Monroe, N. C. These seed are double cleaned and sent in good sacks.
Yours very truly,
T. J. W. BROOM, County Agent.

NAT'L FORESTRY SALES INCREASE

Ten Per Cent Addition During Last Six Months 1929

The money receipts from National Forest activities in the last six months of 1929 were nearly 10 per cent more than the receipts for the same period of 1928, the Forest service of the U. S., Department of Agriculture announced. In the six-month period of 1929, the nine National forest districts received a net total of \$3,245,164.03 from timber sales, grazing fees, etc., an increase of \$316,053.96 over the same six months of 1928.

In the six months of 1929, the sale

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JAMES C. STONE GIVES WARNING

Farmers Should Produce Only Crops and Livestock Best for Section

WATCH ADVANTAGES

Official Outlines Agricultural Marketing Act's Purposes

Until they act collectively in producing and marketing their product, Burley tobacco growers will never have stability from year to year in the prices they receive, James C. Stone, vice-chairman, Federal Farm Board, said in an address prepared for delivery at 11 a. m. Wednesday, January 29, 1930, before the Farmers' Week Meeting held at the College of Agriculture, Lexington, Ky. The same thing is true as to producers of other agricultural commodities, he added.

In addition to collective action, Mr. Stone said he regards it of vital importance that farmers produce only crops and livestock best adapted to the sections in which they live. Kentuckians, he said, have "a natural advantage over other sections in the production of blue-grass seed, race horses, Burley tobacco, sheep, lambs and wool, hemp, and possibly other

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Guernsey Cattle Wanted In Blue Ridge, Georgia

Blue Ridge, Ga.
Jan. 27, 1930.

Mr. Lyles Harris, Franklin, N. C.
Dear Mr. Harris:
We are in the market for some good Guernsey cattle. If you have these in the county that can be purchased at a reasonable price please give me the information at your earliest convenience.
If I can ever be of any assistance to you please call on me, I am
Yours truly,
H. C. WILLIAMS, County Agent.

STATE CHAMPS GO TO MEETING

Winners of Corn and Cotton Prizes In Carolina Off On Tour

Raleigh, Feb. 5.—North Carolina will be represented at a South-wide meeting and a 10-day educational tour which has been planned for the 1929 cotton and corn-growing champions in recognition of their outstanding accomplishments in economic crop production.

Winners of the state-wide crop-

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GARDENING MAN, HAVE A HOT BED

Plants Can Be Ready For Table Two To Three Weeks Earlier

AID IN SHORT SEASON

Plan Given For Permanent Or Temporary Form of Structure

A hotbed is necessary for a complete garden. Plants can be started early and the vegetables be ready for the table two or three weeks earlier than if seed were planted in the open. In short season sections the hotbed will enable the gardener to grow plants that otherwise could not mature before fall frosts. Tomato, pepper, celery, eggplant, cauliflower, lettuce, melons, etc., are the plants most commonly started in the hotbed. Many of the ornamental flowering plants can also be given an early start in this way. The size of the hotbed will be governed by the size of the garden or number of plants wanted. A hotbed is not expensive or difficult to make. Regular hotbed sash is 3x6 feet and the frame can be built for one or more. In sections where storm windows are used the frame can be made to fit one of the storm sash so it will serve a double purpose if taken down a little early and used to cover the hotbed. Locate the bed in a warm, sunny convenient place.

The permanent hotbed is made by digging a pit in the ground two feet deep, six feet wide and as long as needed. A pit six feet square should suffice for any farm hotbed. Build a frame around the bed to support the glass. Have it two feet above the ground on one side and 18 inches on the other to allow slope for drainage of snows or rains. Make a permanent frame of good lumber or better yet cement. Have sides and ends tight to prevent air drafts. This pit is to be filled with fresh horse manure, that does not contain too much straw. The manure should be properly prepared by pitching it over two or three times to make sure heating starts uniformly, after which it should be solidly tramped into the pit and covered with four inches of good garden soil. The temperature will run excessively high for a week and it is unsafe to plant seed within this time. Temperature is very important and must be carefully watched. Regulate by proper ventilation secured by raising the sash on the side opposite the wind. Keep the temperature as near 65 degrees as possible. Too high a temperature is likely to result in plants rotting off at the ground line. There be sufficient moisture at all times, but soil should not be kept too moist.

The temporary hotbed serves the

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BEFORE

Which Home -Would You Rather Live In?

Which one would you pay the most money for? Right. Well, do as this family did, and get busy beautifying your home.

The County Agent is responsible only for articles over his signature. For the rest blame the editor-Editor.



AFTER