

HORTICULTURAL SUGGESTIONS FOR BOLL WEEVIL COUNTIES

By C. D. MATTHEWS

The present boll weevil counties and the future boll weevil counties have both natural and economic advantages for growing other money crops and for developing agricultural industries of a horticultural nature. All of these counties have splendid capabilities for the production of sweet potatoes, and strawberries to a large extent. Certain sections in these counties have advantages for the production of Irish potatoes, peaches, cantaloupes, watermelons, and some minor truck crops. Space does not permit discussion of the possibilities of these different crops but suffice it to say that if they should receive the attention and development which they deserve.

Development of Conservative Methods

Experts in boll weevil States make it advisable to caution growers against rushing blindly to grow new crops on a large scale without first acquainting themselves with the business of producing and marketing their crops. If these precautionary steps are not taken, disappointment or certain failure are very likely to follow. The crops to be grown should be decided upon only after careful consideration. Then full knowledge regarding the production, handling, and marketing of those crops should be secured. The successful production and marketing of most horticultural products is a specialized business knowledge, so it is essential that growers do some careful thinking before embarking too extensively in new fields. Individual growers should plant only a limited acreage until they have learned the business of growing the particular vegetables and fruits that they may have selected.

Organized for Production and Marketing

Meet the problem of growing different crops not as an individual but by cooperation in groups. If it is necessary to grow new crops in a community, the success of each grower will depend largely upon the development of the community in these new endeavors. Organize the community so that frequent meetings can be held to discuss the advisability of producing certain crops, the acreage to grow, and the production methods. Better crops can be grown at a lower net cost by growers working in groups with an accepted plan, than can be produced by isolated individuals working alone. A sufficient volume of uniform grade will thus be

produced in a community to warrant consideration by the markets and the marketing problem will be greatly simplified.

Low Net Cost of Production

Important

High yield per acre and low net cost are important factors from a production standpoint, in making a financial success in truck and fruit growing. Community production planning will materially aid in bringing about this condition. Each individual and each community group should study their particular horticultural crops and work out plans that produce a high yield at a low net cost.

The Farm Garden

No plan for meeting boll weevil conditions or for developing a diversified agriculture is complete without a consideration of the farm garden. The farm garden in the South has not received the attention from southern farmers that its importance warrants. It has been said that the farm garden is the most neglected phase of southern agriculture.

Naturally it is possible to reduce the cost of the family's food supply by having a really good farm garden, but the convenience and benefit of having a supply of fresh vegetables always available cannot be measured in dollars and cents. It means better living for the farm family. In many localities the only means of securing fresh vegetables is from gardens of the community. For the family's sake, have a good garden.

The economic importance of the farm garden was never greater than at present. High freight rates are causing fresh vegetables to sell beyond the reach of many and are often making it unprofitable to ship them away from the place of production. The farmer who buys vegetables is not only paying the cost of production, but is also paying the cost of transportation and marketing.

Recent discoveries in the field of human nutrition have shown the importance and absolute necessity of fresh leafy vegetables in the diet and have caused a general realization of the value of fresh vegetables as food. Fresh vegetables in too many cases make up a very small part of the North Carolina farm diet.

The home garden should be conducted with the aim to supply the family table with an abundance and variety of fresh vegetables during a greater part of the year. From careful observation, it can safely be said that a well-kept garden will yield a

SPACING COTTON FOR INCREASED YIELDS

By R. Y. Winters, Plant Breeding Agronomist, State College Station, Raleigh

Cultivated crops vary in their response to close and thin spacing. Certain crops produce more fruit when planted thick while others fall under thick spacing. If corn is planted thick it will suffer from lack of moisture and produce a poor yield while the yield of cotton and soybeans may be considerably increased by close spacing.

Cotton is a tap rooted plant which usually suffers more from wet weather than from drought. Since an abundance of roots is not so essential for the plant as it is for other crops, it can be planted much closer together than other crops.

When plants are spaced closely between hills, they produce a large number of short fruiting branches rather than a main stem with a larger number of long branches. It takes the plant a shorter time to produce a main stem and short fruiting branches than is required to produce a main stem and several large branches. For this reason close spacing stimulates earliness. During the past three years the experiment station has conducted tests to determine the difference in yield and earliness when plants of cotton are given different distances between the hills. In these tests one lot of rows have been left just as they came up without any thinning, others

were thinned 8 to 12, 18 and 24 inches between the hills.

The results show that close spacing not only gives a heavier yield but earlier cotton. On account of the difficulty of keeping down the weeds and grass, it is not advisable to leave the cotton without any thinning, but 8 to 10 inches with one to two stalks to the hill will give much better results than the broader spacing. The space between the rows will depend upon the fertility of the soil and growth that is usually secured. In sections where cotton naturally makes a small growth the rows may be run closer together with profit.

MINISTER'S BIBLE AS EVIDENCE IN HUNT LIQUOR CASE

VA., May 23.—The pastor of a North Carolina preacher branches borne on such plantations as vegetable branches known as "wood branches" because they bear fruit direct. They must send out spurs on which the fruit is borne. This large spreading growth shades the ground, protecting the fallen squares that have been punctured by the boll weevil. When these fallen squares are kept moist the boll weevil grub can feed and reach maturity. The spreading plants therefore help to increase the reproduction of the boll weevil.

When cotton is planted thickly (8 to 12 inches between the hills, with one to two plants to the hill) the competition for light tends to make the plants grow upright without much spreading. Here we have a main stem with a large number of short fruiting branches rather than a main stem with a larger number of long branches. It takes the plant a shorter time to produce a main stem and short fruiting branches than is required to produce a main stem and several large branches. For this reason close spacing stimulates earliness. During the past three years the experiment station has conducted tests to determine the difference in yield and earliness when plants of cotton are given different distances between the hills. In these tests one lot of rows have been left just as they came up without any thinning, others

have received figures indicating that about 208 pounds, per acre. Calculated on the Government per yield for May, listing upon this new basis, the yield for this year will average for the best rated yield for our May report would be around 10,850,000. Sincerely yours J. W. JAY & CO.

Fight The Boll Weevil and eat---

750

Mity Rice Bread

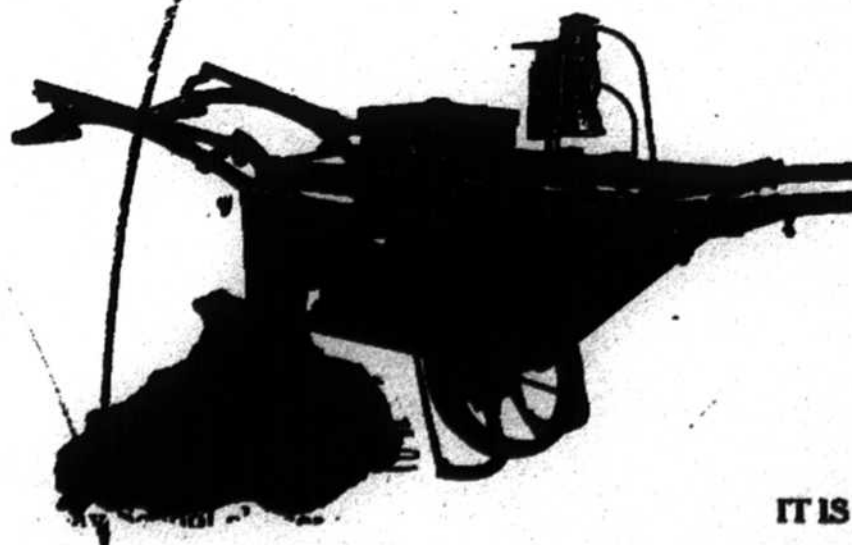
Pearce's Bakery

Dunn North Carolina

Dust And Beat The Weevil

BEWARE OF METHODS NOT APPROVED BY U. S. AND STATE OFFICIALS—DO IT RIGHT OR NOT AT ALL IS WHAT THE EXPERTS SAY

The Ideal Duster does beat the weevil, and has made satisfactory gains for all who have used it according to instructions. Do not flirt with bankruptcy and be sorry later, play safe and smile.



IT IS SIMPLE, EFFICIENT AND STRONG, AND JUST AS NECESSARY AS CULTIVATION AND FERTILIZER

The Ideal Duster has been approved by your state officials and the Delta Laboratory and in fact is built in accordance with their exact requirements.

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