

Accelerated Erosion Caused By The Misuse Of Land

By J. M. KING
SCS Soil Scientist

If you are a farmer, your land is the most important part of your farm. It determines just how successful you can become as a farmer, and to a certain extent the kind of farming that you can do on your farm.

Too many farmers take their land for granted. They think that soil is one of those things that nothing can change. This is not true, your land is constantly changing. Good management and good use are improving it, or improper use and poor treatment are making the soil less productive.

We need only to look in Lake Junaluska and Waterville Lake to see that not all the land in Haywood County has been properly treated. There, when the lakes are lowered, we see tons of the best part of Haywood County farms filling up the lake. We take for granted erosion in its natural form. This is the slow, creeping, unnoticeable movement of all soil down slopes. It takes place over thousands of years and is the basis for the formation of some of our better, more level lands.

The kind of erosion that we should concern ourselves with most is the accelerated erosion that man has caused with his misuse of the land. This shows up after every intense rain. The streams run muddy and the small rills and gullies show up on our sloping cultivated fields. It is easy enough to come along and cultivate these small gullies out of the field and maybe forget about them. The fact remains that this field has lost some of its value as farm land. Poor land use and treatment also contribute to flooding due to excessive runoff.

Most farmers have seen hard showers in the summer with muddy water running off a field. Upon examination the soil is still bone dry just a few inches beneath the surface.

EXECUTOR NOTICE

Having qualified as Executor of the estate of J. T. Harrell, deceased, late of Haywood County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons having claims against the estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned at Waynesville, North Carolina, on or before the 6th day of January, 1957 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment.

This the 6th day of January, 1956.

R. L. Davis,
Executor of the Estate of
J. T. Harrell, deceased.
2599-J 9-16-23-30 F 6-13

Too Much Can Be As Harmful As Too Little

Warren Jones of Kinston, Route 3, is one farmer who vows that you can have "too much of a good thing".

Jones County Agent Fletcher Barber says that Jones until last year had fertilized his tobacco by the "guess method". He had been using around 1,400 pounds of 3-9-6 fertilizer and topdressing. As a result too much of the wrong kind of fertilizer, he received poor quality tobacco.

Last year, Jones decided to follow recommended practices by having his soil tested for the proper amount and kind of fertilizer he needed. He found that he should be using 1,000 pounds of 4-8-10 fertilizer per acre.

As an indication of the benefits Jones received from proper fertilization, last year he produced around 1,800 pounds of good quality tobacco per acre.

From now on, he plans to follow all of the improved practices in tobacco production.

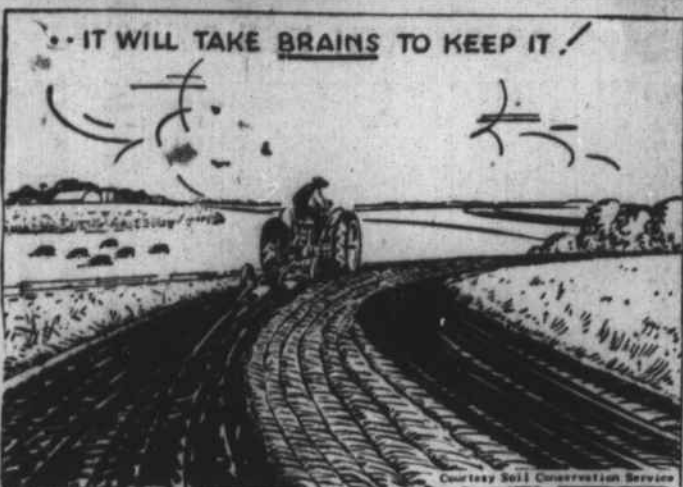
This usually occurs when crops are making their most growth and water is the critical factor in how much growth they will make. Instead, the water is running off the land and down the stream, usually carrying fine soil particles with it. If a soil has had the proper treatment and is being used with its capability, the rain falling on it will, to a large degree, go into the soil. There it will be available to the crops and not run off the land.

This is why your Haywood County Soil Conservation District has secured the services of a soil technician to assist you in knowing your land. He will go over every acre of your farm and make a land capability map.

This map will give you the facts of what each acre of your land is capable of doing, based on the kind of soil, the amount of slope and the degree of erosion that has already taken place on the land. With this map as a guide, the soil conservation technician assigned to this county can go over your farm with you and show you the treatments that are necessary in each field to reach maximum permanent production.

On your land capability map your land will be divided into one or more of the eight recognized capability classes of land. The first three classes can be cultivated safely with certain practices applied. Class IV can be cultivated in a fairly long rotation. Class V, VI and VII are limited by the nature of the soil, the amount of slope, or erosion to grass or trees. Class VIII land has no use except for recreation and wildlife. Rock cliffs fall in this class.

Farmers can obtain this technical assistance by making application to one of their local Soil Conservation District Supervisors: D. J. Boyd of Jonathan Creek, Joe Davis of White Oak, or Van C. Wells of West Pigeon.



Specialist Says Demand For Wood Products Good

The demand and price situation for all grades and kinds of wood products is "excellent," according to Jim Andersen, State College extension forestry specialist.

This "situation," along with a continuing decline in farm income, has turned many landowners' attention to their woods.

He says "the farsighted owners are no longer interested in selling every green and living thing in their woods at one whack. They realize that timber, growing at a normal rate, can return more cash income over the years than almost any other investment."

In planning for a thinning or partial cutting operation in pine stands, however, there is often some question of when a stand is in need of cutting. Andersen says one of the best visual guides concerns the amount of living "crown" on the trees.

Foresters have found that the best rate of growth is maintained by trees having at least one-third of their total height in green branches. When the tops "prune up" to the point where they make up only 30 to 40 per cent of the height of the trees, the stand usually needs thinning.

He warns that this "one-third green top" rule should not be followed blindly. The best way to determine when to cut is to contact a trained forester who will inspect the woods.

In most cases, landowners can get free assistance with their forestry work by contacting their county agent or local N.C. Division of Forestry representative.

The average price for aromatic tobacco grown in North Carolina this year was 80 cents per pound.

Leather Gloves Should Be Washed, Not Dry Cleaned

By RUTH CURRENT
State Home Demonstration Agent

GET YOUR GLOVES READY FOR SPRING—It is too late to wash leather gloves if they already have been dry cleaned because cleaning removes much of the natural oil and leaves the gloves dry and stiff. If they have never been dry cleaned, they can be washed with little difficulty. For best results, gloves should never be allowed to get too soiled before they are washed.

All gloves except doeskin should be washed on the hands, in lukewarm, soapy water. Doeskin is washed in the hands, like lingerie and hosiery. All gloves should be rubbed gently. The rinse water should have just a little suds in it to help restore some of the natural oils to the leather. After rinsing the gloves, roll off the hands and place on a Turkish towel. The water can be pressed out, but gloves should never be squeezed or twisted dry.

To keep the fingers from getting stuck together, blow into the gloves. If convenient, tissue paper should be stuffed into the fingers. Gloves should be dried away from heat or sun.

Before they are completely dry, they should be put on and shaped on the hand.

Colored gloves, if made of first-quality leather, may be washed also and will not streak although they may become lighter.

Sales of Grade A milk produced by North Carolina dairymen for the period of January to August, 1955, were about 2 per cent above the same period in 1954.

The 1955 fall pig crop, to be marketed in the first half of 1956, is larger than last fall's crop and prices are likely to remain below year ago.

Price of cattle in 1956 may begin a gradual cyclical recovery; sheep and lamb prices also are expected to average as high this year as in 1955.

State College Answers Timely Farm Questions

QUESTION: Why are many poultry producers turning to the infrared lamp method of brooding chicks?

ANSWER: Some of the advantages of the infrared brooders are: there is no fuel to carry, no ashes to remove, no burners to clean. Also, these brooders are light weight, easy to set up, move, and the lamps have many other uses around the house, also.

QUESTION: What size apple trees are best to buy for planting in a commercial orchard?

ANSWER: Ordinarily a good grade of one-year-old trees will be as satisfactory or more so than older or extremely large trees. Trees in the range of three feet to five feet are a good size.

QUESTION: How can I prevent decay in my new farm buildings?

ANSWER: First of all, it's important to build with dry lumber and use building designs that will keep the wood dry. If that's impossible, use wood that has been pressure treated with preservatives. As a general rule, too, no untreated wood should be placed within 18 inches of the ground.

QUESTION: Since 1940, hens have increased their rate of lay 50 eggs per year. Can we expect hens to continue laying more and more eggs?

ANSWER: Yes, output per hen has passed the 15 dozen level for the U. S. and in North Carolina, most of our commercial-sized flocks have too. This trend can be expected to continue, according to C. P. Libeau, extension marketing specialist.

QUESTION: What is the best weight to market hogs?

ANSWER: Animal husbandrymen say that hogs should generally be marketed at 180 to 200 pounds. They say unless your feed program is extremely economical, additional pounds on a hog will mean less profit. They also advise selecting the very best gilts out of your market hogs and breeding them to replace some of the older, off-type, poor-producing sows in the herd.

QUESTION: Is land ever "ruined" for future crop use?

ANSWER: Only when erosion uncovers unfavorable material. Ordinarily land is not ruined by "bad" farming practices other than erosion. Physical favorableness may be reduced, but good management can restore it.

QUESTION: When is the best time to breed dairy cattle?

ANSWER: Breed as many cows and heifers between November 1 and December for fall freshening. This will provide a maximum of fall milk for the base setting period in 1956. Cows bred in the next month will freshen between August 10 and September 23.

QUESTION: What is the advantage in using detergent sanitizers to clean dairy utensils?

ANSWER: The generally approved method of cleaning and sanitizing dairy utensils requires several steps and four different products which must be used in proper order. The new detergent-sanitizer replaces these four products.

QUESTION: Does liming pay?

ANSWER: Some experiments show that every dollar spent for lime returns a profit of three to seven dollars to the farmer.

QUESTION: How much and what kind of fertilizer should I use under trees?

ANSWER: For trees above six inches in diameter, use five pints of an 8-8-8 fertilizer per inch in

PINNED DOWN FOR SCOUT WEEK



DURING ceremonies in Washington launching Boy Scout Week, which starts February 16, Sen. Henry Dworshak (R-Idaho) receives a lapel pin from George Graham, 10, of Falls Church, Va. George was chosen the "outstanding Cub Scout of his pack." (International)

Failure To Have Soil Tested Is Costly Lesson

Alex Covington of Laurel Hill, Route 2, Richmond County farmer, followed "all but one" recommended practice in growing his corn last year.

But that one "slip-up" cost him, says County Agent Sherman N. Shelton. The mistake was in forgetting to get his soil tested.

Shelton says that Covington applied 700 pounds of 4-10-6 fertilizer to one acre of corn and sidedressed with 150 pounds of Cal-Nitro. He planted Dixie 18 hybrid corn about 15 inches apart in the row and had high hopes of making 100 bushels of corn per acre.

The stalks grew and grew, some as high as 14 feet, but Alex didn't make the yield he hoped to make. His yield was only 45 bushels per acre.

Shelton says that Covington's soil needed liming and was very low in potash. Covington says he's going to follow "every practice" next year.

Smaller Curers Available For Aromatic Tobacco

Smaller forced air curers, adapted for aromatic tobacco curing barns, are now available, says R. H. Crouse, extension agronomy specialist at N. C. State College.

These small curers may prove to be boon to the "one-acre" grower.

Crouse says that the smaller curers are interesting many small growers who have not used curers in the past because of the higher cost of the larger equipment designed for the two to four-acre barns.

The agronomy specialist says that all aromatic growers have been asked to use a recommended curer which will furnish a 90 to 100 degree, thermostatically-controlled heat, and that will also have a uniform distribution of air with a fan capacity of 3,000 CFM for the 20 by 20 by 10 feet barns.

Nothing Sells Like Newspapers

Bookmobile Schedule

Tuesday, Feb. 14

IRON DUFF - RIVERSIDE - HYDER MT.
Mrs. E. W. White 9:15- 9:30
Grady Davis 9:45-10:00
Helen Sanford 10:15-10:30
Dewey Davis 10:40-10:50
Floyd Green 11:00-11:15
Ruby Arrington 11:30-11:45
Ollie Mack 12:15-12:45

Thursday, Feb. 16

RATCLIFFE COVE
J. P. Ledbetter 9:15- 9:30
Parris Store 9:30-10:00
Wright's Store 10:05-10:15
Wiley Franklin 10:30-10:45
Mrs. Henry Francis 11:00-11:15
Mt. Experiment Stn. 11:30-11:45
Ratcliffe Cove Grocery 12:00-12:15
Hugh Francis 12:30-12:45
H. F. Francis 1:00- 1:15

Friday, Feb. 17

CRUSO
Robert Freeman 9:30- 9:45
Sam Freeman 10:00-10:10
Cruso Grocery 10:15-10:30
Cruso School 10:40-11:40
Dois Rogers 11:45-12:00
Mrs. Ella Pless 12:15-12:25
J. S. Williams 12:30-12:45
Burnett Cash Grocery 1:00- 1:15

McClure With Auxiliary Battalion In Germany

HANAU, Germany — Army Specialist Third Class Donald L. McClure, son of Mr. and Mrs. Hoyle McClure, 1106 Chestnut Park Drive, Waynesville, recently was assigned to the 288th Field Artillery Battalion in Germany.

Specialist McClure is a mechanic in the battalion's Battery B. He entered the Army in February, 1954, and completed basic training at Camp Chaffee, Ark. McClure arrived in Europe in July 1954.

The 20-year-old soldier is a former student at Waynesville Township High School.

ADMINISTRATOR NOTICE

Having qualified as Administrator of the estate of James Caldwell, deceased, late of Haywood County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons having claims against the estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned at Waynesville, North Carolina, on or before the 16th day of January, 1957 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment.

This the 16th day of January, 1956.
Gudger Cagle,
Administrator of the Estate of
James Caldwell, deceased.
2607-J 16-23-30 F 6-13-20



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