

PUBLISHED EVERY MONDAY

The Mountaineer's

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Farm Review and Forecast



■ OUR SOIL ★ OUR STRENGTH ■

Soil Conservation News

98 Haywood Farmers Joined Soil Program During 1955

By ROY R. BECK Soil Conservation Specialist

Haywood County Soil Conservation District Supervisors, with the to its capabilites for protecton and meadow.

washing away is an accomplishment of Clinton, N. C.

Mark Scott, with a farm at the controlled by contour strip - cropgrass-haged rotation last year, while his neighbors literally watch-

This spring, Mr. Scott says: "I'll

sion didn't just happen. Mr. Scott asked for help on his farming operations from agricultural agenoil Conservation Service techni- Haywood County farmers:



That's what you should get from chicks started before March 15. Early chicks have always made more money than late chicks because the early chicks hit their peak production in September, October, November, and December when egg prices are



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clan helped him work out a complete soil and water conservation plan to fit each acre.

Some of the main features of the cooperation of farmers and the aid plan were: Contour strip-cropping, of SCS technicians, other agencies pasture improvement, tile drainage, and groups got conservation farm- a grass meadow waterway and tree ing off to a good start in this new- planting in cut-over woodland. The ly organized Soil Conservation Dis- rotation being used is corn, foltrict. Over 100 farmers started lowed by small grain, a red clover bringing into reality the science of grass mixture seeded in the small using and treating land according grain and a year of clover-grass. These achievements just didn't happen, Yes, conservation measures help-ed many conservation farmers pro-tect and improve the second secon plan does not result in success, ing with the district seeded 240 crop yields and farm income. Ero-sion under control on land that was

PLANNING

Ninety-eight farmers joined with was applied to many acres during head of Wilson Cove in Beaverdam the more than 50,000 other North the year. More than 1100 acres of started a three-year contour-strip tion measures to their lands. Comer use and treatment of all land with nearly three carloads of drain research in the U. S., as we know lectual oddities. In the earlier were made on 80 farms in 1955, tile installed in wet lands in the

with the Haywood County ASC Committee in developing the Agriong them his Soil Conserv. cultural Conservation Program. ation District. The various kinds of Twenty-one farmers received techland on his farm were mapped ac- nical help on permanent conservang to their capabilities. The tion measures, Cost-sharing helped

1. Establish 1290 acres of perennial grass and legume sods on land subject to erosion. 2. Lime 200 acres of land to be

seeded in a year or two,
3. Improve 12,000 acres of old pasture and meadow

round cover. 6. Apply lime and fertilizer as scientist made soil maps of 115 District shot in the arm to drought-dam- farms covering 13,127 acres of land.

aged pastures feet of field time with Haywood County farm-

CONSERVING SOIL AND WATER ning technician and a soil conservapplication of conservation prac- helped us enter two communities fields. tices that tend to conserve soil and in the Carolina Power Company's water, moved ahead in 1955. More Finer Farms program, Talks on tures, than 1,100 acres of land had con- the Soil Conservation District proservation crop rotations establish- gram were presented to all 4-H beautification on is a major problem. Dis. rigation at the Mountain Research trict cooperators seeded cover Station, in May. crops on nearly 400 acres of crop-land last fall. Most of these cover land last fall. Most of these cover Association helped sponsor "Soil crops will furnish some grazing, Stewardship Sunday" with about with the remaining top growth and 25 sermons being preached on stewall roots turned back to the land ardship of the lands Office space

water-holding capacity.

CRITICAL AREA PLANTING Conservation farmers cooperat-

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WHITE CLOVER

RED CLOVER

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ONLY COMMUNITY PARK in Haywood County is this one opned by the Thickety CDP in 1953. The park includes the pavilion shown, open fireplace and new dual-purpose picnic tables, new

Needed conservation treatment

ditches in small fields.

well, and softball diamond. The Thickety CDP meets at the park in the smumertime and at community churches during the winter.

(County agent's photo by Tippett)

tect and Improve their land and water resources, thereby increasing plans" is the statement of Henry permanent clover-grass mixtures Dr. Shaw Cites Rapid Growth Of Farm Research TREATING LANDS ACCORDING TO NEEDS

The rapid rise of agricultural recommunity, reports such results Carolina farmers who are cooper- cropland, 1600 acres of grass land search and development since the it today, can be divided into two year of conservation ating with and receiving technical and 2000 acres of woodland receiv- turn of the century was outlined periods: From 1800 until 1900, and farming, Mark reports: "Washing assistance from their local Soil ed soil building and protection last week by Dr. Luther Shaw, in from 1900 to the present. Conservation Districts; help in through the use of the right com- charge of burley tobacco research ping in just one year." Mr. Scott planning and applying conserva- bination of conservation measures, at the Mountain Experiment Sta- first period was characterized by a For the first time, drainage as a tion, in a speech

Dr. Shaw said that agricultural

strip-crop the rest of the hill just as soon as I get the big rocks shoved off by a bulldozer."

This system for controlling evo-District Supervisors consulted trolling hay and pasture crops on WWIT have broadcast District early period, he said, were: (1) their hill-land. The farmers who news,

installed field drain tile report. A cash donation from the First anatomy, (2) fundamental underthat through increased yields and National Bank of Waynesville made standing of animal and plant pathland gained through eliminating it possible to provide the ministers ology, particularly as related to based. The exclusions in determopen ditches, labor saved on shrub- of the county with information for nutrition, (3) discovery and estabbing and clean-out work will pay Soil Stewardship Sunday. White lishment of the parasitic concept for the cost of installation in five pine seedlings from TVA and mul- of diseases, (4) development of the years. Then, too, there is an addi-tiffora rose plants from the N. C. fundamental concept of genetics. tional saving through more efficient State Wildlife Resources Commis- and (5) establishment of the United use of machinery by eliminating sion were furnished to cooperating States Department of Agriculture are considered as an investment rethe necessity of operating between farmers for use in furthering the and the State Land Grand College. conservation work on the land. WHERE THE HELP CAME FROM

LOOKING AREAD

Soil supervisors have trained More emphasis needs to be plac- marked by a tremendous expansion 4. Seed 2,600 acres of cover technicians of the Soil Conservation Service assigned to help co-measures by agricultural workers al programs, especially following by 300 pounds per acre by prim-5. Establish 500 acres of yearoperating land owners solve their and by landowners, according to depression workers

World War I and the subsequent \$1,500,000 income earned soil and water problems. The soil Van C. Wells, Soil Conservation depression,

Drainage of bottom lands. Our work unit staff, working full Contour strip cropping with

ers, now consists of a farm plan- that has to be farmed. 3. Grass meadow - waterways Land use adjustments and the ation aid. Our county farm agent seeded in natural draws in crop

5. Highway erosion control and

ed on them by cooperating farmers. boys' clubs in the county. The Carolina Extension service through conservation farming, imacres of this was in contour strip engineering specialist conducted a proved methods and new entercropping, on sloping land where

for improved fertility, tilth and in the courthouse is being provided by the Board of County Com-

The Haywood County Ministerial QUALITY Three newspapers-Waynesville Spartan Quality



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He told the Kiwanians that the before the group of scientists who were individualists and, for the most part, were self-educated, highly intelstages, their physical facilities

fundamental

from 1900 to the present has been assets and depreciable property

"phenomenal and in some fields probably did not exceed \$100,000. grass-based rotations on hill land the farmer is lagging in acceptance of this progress."

Dr. Shaw attributed these achievements to increased knowl- brid varieties) and nutrition from edge in all fields of agriculture, 13 bushes per acre prior to 1900 improvements in educational fa- to 35 bushels at present. This incilities, and greater financial sup- crease represented an additional port for agriculture research,

made by agricultural research the

doctor pointed out, are: Increasing the yield of burley fire and black shank diseases,

Social Security Extended To Self-Employed Farmers such as sales of livestock held for

cle, completing a series describ-ing the provisions of the Federal draft, breeding, or dairy purposes or sales of machinery and real esincome and Social Security tax laws as they affect farm people. was prepared by Charles R. Pugh, W. L. Turner, and C. W. Wil-liams, extension farm manage-ment specialists, N. C. State College.)

Amendments to the Social Security law by the 1954. Congress bring coverage to self-employed farmers for the first time starting with the taxable year 1955, and extend coverage to many additional farm employees, Social Security is a federal sponsored program offering insurance to workers and their dependents against complete loss of income due either to the death or retfrement of the worker. Payments or benefits are generally. based upon the period of service and taxable income during the service period.

Self-employment taxes for Social ecurity purposes and Federal inome taxes are related to the extent that both are collected by the Internal Revenue Service at the same time. Also the same accounting methods and records must serve as the basis of the two types of taxes, Self-employment taxes differ from federal income taxes in Survivor's Insurance Fund from which Social Security benefits are paid rather than into the general funds of the U.S. Treasury.

Some self-employed farmers may Schedule F, Form 1040 to deter- Meanwhile, the mine earnings from self-employ- frozen fruits and fruit juices inment for Social Security tax pur- creased more than 10 times, poses. Schedule F is arranged so that the computation of self-employment tax from farming will follow as the form is filled in.

In calculating self-employment earnings from farming, the individual farmer may have to make some adjustments in the figure upon which federal income taxes are ining net earnings from self-employment include any income and expenses associated with (1) rentals in the form of crop shares, which self-employment income: (2) gains Dr. Shaw asserted that the period or losses from the sale of capital

North Carolina burley farmers. By He added that progress made in comparison, the cost of research agricultural research has been for the Burley Belt as a whole

Increasing the yield of corn. through the use of genetics (especially in the development of hytotal of 20,550,000 bushels grown Among recent contributions by North Carolina farmers in 1952. Development of varieties of burley tobacco resistant to wild-

operating losses of other years, Farmers are to pay Social Secur ity tax if they had earnings of \$400 or more from self-employment in 1955. The maximum covered earnings from all sources are

\$4200. Therefore the maximum income subject to the 3 per cent selfemployment tax is \$4200 minus the amount of covered wages received as an employee.

Farmers reporting their income

on the "cash" basis may wish to use an optional method to stabilize their coverage from year-to-year. If the gross income from farming (with adjustments as mentioned above) is between \$800 and \$1800. the self-employed farmer may pay Social Security taxes on one-half of this gross amount. If the gross true if you have an adequate soil income from farming (with adjust- management and fertility program ments) is more than \$1800, and the computed net earnings from self-employment from farming are less than \$900, Social Security taxes may be paid on \$900.

Details of Social Security coverage and computation of the tax are explained in the pamphlets, "How Social Security Covers Farmers' and "Farmers' Tax Guide". Check that they go into the Old-Age and with your county agent or the local offices of the Social Security Administration and Internal Revenue Service for copies.

Per capita consumption of all owe no income tax due to the size fruits and fruit juices declined of deductions and personal exemp- from a high of about 225 pounds tions but still must complete in 1946 to 193 pounds in 1954.

> A total of 53 counties participated in last year's North Carolina "County of the Year" in rural progress contest which was won by Ashe County.

> North Carolina a ranks second among lespedeza producing states for 1955 with a crop of over 33 million pounds of clean seed.

State College **Answers Timely** Farm Questions

QUESTION: What size poultry flocks can one person take care of tate; and (3) deductions for net efficiently?

ANSWER: Some people are do ing an excellent job with 1,000 hens in three hours work per day One man or family can handle 3,000 laying hens in eight or nine hours if he doesn't have to stop 20 times a day to sell his eggs or deliver them door to door.

QUESTION: Can pruning take the place of fruit thinning?

ANSWER: No. Pruning can reduce the number of fruit on the tree, but it cannot replace thinning if you have a heavy bloom. All that pruning does is reduce buds It doesn't eliminate the necessity of thinning. This is particularly

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