

PUBLISHED EVERY
MONDAY

The Mountaineer's

PUBLISHED WEEKLY
MONDAY

Farm Review and Forecast

Henderson County Finds Soil Conservation Valuable

In just three practices under the 1955 ACP, 3,950 acres of vulnerable Henderson County farmland were permanently protected from deterioration and erosion.

These figures were contained in the annual report for Henderson County covering operation of all Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Programs in the county, according to Frances F. Honeycutt, office manager.

Mrs. Honeycutt says that 343 acres on 163 farms were provided with a permanent vegetative cover to protect this eroded land from further erosion and to start building the land back up.

Under ACP Practice 3, some 649

acres were treated by the application of lime during 1955. "Within a matter of weeks after the lime was applied, there was evidence of additional growth and erosion protection," she said.

The leading practice in the county in the way of acres of farmland improved and protected was the improvement of grassland sod. Mrs. Honeycutt said that 2,958 acres of potentially valuable farmland received needed amounts of lime, fertilizer, and seed to assure a good stand of legumes and grasses.

If Chicks Eat Less, Seek Cause

Are your chicks eating you out of house and home? Well, it's when they start dawdling over their feed that you have to worry.

State College extension poultrymen point out that as chicks grow, they will eat more feed. The need will be greater for each week during the growing period. When chicks slow down or stop eating, there's trouble ahead.

The poultry specialists say that if chicks eat less feed today than they did yesterday, the poultryman should try to stimulate appetites by using wet mash, pellets, crumbles, or an antibiotic in the drinking water of feed. But the specialists warned not to feed more wet mash than the chicks can consume in 20 to 30 minutes.

One-half cup of molasses to each gallon of water for two days is also a good way to stimulate appetites. So anytime you think you're saving on feed because the chickens aren't eating as much as usual, don't thank your stars. Check to see what's wrong. There's usually some cause like a cold, coccidiosis, stale or moldy feed, disease, or it may simply be too hot in the brooder house.

Gladiolus Among Best Of Flowers

By ROBERT SCHMIDT

The gladiolus is one of our most satisfactory garden flowers. It is an excellent cut flower and makes a conspicuous show of color in the garden. Also, it is easy to grow. Gladioli will succeed in any good garden soil that is well drained and where they may be well watered. The fact that we plant well-developed corms or bulbs instead of having to nurse seedling plants makes them much easier to handle for the average gardener. A succession of blooms may be had by planting every three or four weeks during the season beginning in February in Eastern North Carolina and continuing until July.

In sandy soils the corms should be planted about five inches deep and six inches apart in the row. In clay soils four inches deep and six inches apart in the row. Fertilization should be moderate with any good grade garden fertilizer and care should be taken that none of the fertilizer comes into contact with the bulbs.

Select nice plump bulbs free from any disease spots. Most of the bulbs offered for sale are of the large sizes but with our long seasons the medium and small sizes will also give us nice blooms.

There are hundreds of good varieties. The following are dependable and beautiful: White: Florence Nightingale, Snow Princess, Leading Lady; white shades: Margaret Beaton, Corona; pink and rose: Picardy, Ethel Cave Cole, Spic and Span, Rosa van Lima, Chamouny; lavender: Elizabeth the Queen; yellow: Spotlight; red: Red Charm, Valeria; blue: Blue Beauty; orange: Pictolus, Orange Gold; deep rose: Burma.

Fortunately, there is only one pest that gives us much trouble on the gladiolus in the garden and that is the gladiolus thrip, a small sucking insect. It causes light streaks on the foliage and a deforming of the blooms. If noticed in time, thrips can be controlled with a dust or spray of 5 per cent DDT.

Plant Food Saves Work, Ups Yield and Quality



Placement method of applying plant food is favorite for row crops.

By increasing their use of fertilizer, farmers have reduced their cost of production. Home gardeners can do the same, saving both money and work.

Fertile soil gives heavier yields, requiring a smaller area to produce the needed amount of vegetables, for example. Well-fed crops mature faster and excel in tenderness and flavor. They also resist the attacks of insects and diseases far better than ill-nourished plants.

Less seed to sow, less time to sow it, less work to care for the plants it produces, all result from an adequate use of plant foods.

Plant food mixtures containing all the elements needed by plants, are better for the amateur, than attempting to analyze his soil and apply precisely what it seems to need.

For a garden of 1,000 square feet a balanced commercial plant food use of six pounds per 100 square feet takes only 60 pounds. It would require 2,612 pounds to fertilize an acre at this rate and there might be few farm crops on which such heavy feeding would pay.

But this feeding would raise even poor soil in a home vegetable or flower garden to good fertility.

In most cases 3 or 4 pounds of plant food per 100 square feet should be applied at planting time. The method used depends on the acidity of the soil. In neutral soils plant food may be spread evenly over the garden area and spaded in. This method should be followed in

Disease Is Major Threat To Hardwood

By GEORGE H. HEPTING
Forest Disease Specialist
U. S. Forest Service

Our children probably do not realize it, but chestnut trees made up over one-fourth of the hardwood timber of our Southern mountain area only a generation ago. Unfortunately, a blight accidentally transported to this country from China, and discovered in New York City in 1904, swept through the entire range of chestnut, practically eliminating this useful tree from our forests. The blight is caused by a fungus that kills the vital inner bark, eventually girdling the tree as effectively as if girdled with an ax. This killing process can still be observed on sprouts from old chestnut stumps.

Fortunately, the chestnut blight fungus is destructive only to chestnut and to some extent to post oak, one of the less valuable oaks. Our white, red, black, and scarlet oaks do not take the chestnut blight. Neither do any of our other mountain hardwoods.

Tree-disease specialists were not able to find means of checking chestnut blight, but they have scoured the Orient for blight-resistant chestnuts that would grow here. They shipped bushels of nuts to this country, and thousands of trees have been grown from them and tested against the blight. Some were resistant, and now blight-resistant Atlantic chestnut stock can be purchased from several commercial nurseries.

While the chestnut blight was spreading southward from New York, another fungus was killing oaks in the Middle West and working southward. It is called oak wilt. By 1955 this disease, which can kill any species of oak, was doing important damage in Wisconsin and adjoining states and had been found in a total of 18 states including North Carolina and Tennessee.

In North Carolina, oak wilt has been found only in Buncombe, Haywood, and Swain Counties. The only Swain case, in Bryson City, has died out. The few known cases in the other two counties have been treated by the North Carolina State Forest Service to prevent spread of the disease.

The state foresters also conduct surveys by airplane and automobile to locate oak wilt suspect trees. If a suspected tree is confirmed by

State College Answers Timely Farm Questions

QUESTION: When should I plant strawberries?

ANSWER: Melvin H. Kolbe, extension horticultural specialist, says that anytime between November and April is all right, provided the plants are large enough and the weather and soil conditions are suitable.

QUESTION: I have several dogwood trees in my yard, but I would like to include some other small trees. What would you suggest?

ANSWER: You might try some flowering crab apples, flowering cherry, Japanese red maple, saucer magnolia, American holly, redbud, or Japanese Pagoda trees.

laboratory test, it is destroyed.

Although some cases of oak wilt have occurred in and about Waynesville, the disease has done little damage there or elsewhere in North Carolina, and there is no reason now to take any drastic action regarding oak timber because of this disease. If a case of wilt is found, the tree should be removed by state authorities, and it is sometimes advisable to cut the oaks adjoining the diseased tree, but no major disposal of oak timber seems necessary so long as the disease becomes no more serious than it is at present in our eastern states.

When a landowner suspects disease or insect attack of his trees, he should notify his county agent or a state or federal forester. Proper advice will be given as to what should be done. Through cooperation of timberland owners and public forestry agencies, we hope to prevent a repetition of any such timber disaster as the chestnut blight.

Big, sturdy PULLETS



Now it's easier and cheaper to grow 'em better!

with SPARTAN'S NEW PULLET GROWER



PARTON FEED STORE

429 Depot St., Waynesville

"Your 'SQ' Feeds Dealer"

BETWEEN NOW AND APRIL 15 PLANT

- BEETS • TURNIPS
- CABBAGE • KALE
- LETTUCE • BROCCOLI
- MUSTARD • SPINACH
- KOHLRABI
- ONION SETS
- RADISHES
- RUTABAGA
- IRISH POTATOES
- GARDEN PEAS

We Have A Complete Line of Well Known Brands of PACKAGE SEEDS

Haywood County FARMERS CO-OP

H. M. Dulin, Mgr.

Depot St. GL 6-8621

PAINTING GUIDE

For walls, ceilings, furniture, everywhere you want a distinctive low-lustre finish use Moore's Satin Impervo Enamel. Choose from 29 new decorator colors that leave a washable, satin-soft finish.

Benjamin Moore paints

CLINE - BRADLEY CO.

Joe Cline - Dick Bradley

GL 6-3181 Hazelwood

BIG NEWS FROM ROGERS TRACTOR Co.



Ford Motor Company announces a new automatic twine tie hay baler, designed for one-man operation and employing heavy-duty feed, unique in the lowest-priced baler field. The new four-bale-a-minute machine in the Ford 250, available in three models, engine driven with starter or without starter, and power take-off.

Pay Only 1/3 Down (Cash or Trade)
Balance Up to 3 Crop Payments
or 34 Monthly Payments.

ROGERS TRACTOR Co.

Specialists In Farm Equipment Financing

Phone Canton 3944 Clyde, N. C.

Headquarters For GARDEN TOOLS

Push Plows \$6.50

Laurel Hoe \$1.35

Bow Rake \$2.75

Work Gloves \$1.35 pr.

Garden Hose
25 ft. -- \$2.98
50 ft. -- \$4.98

Limited Supply
State Half-Runner Beans

A Tender Bean Especially Adapted For Home Gardens. Excellent For Freezing And Canning.
50c lb.

Buy Early! FARMERS FEDERATION

Dial GL 6-5281
250 Depot St.
Waynesville, N. C.

Now we're raising pigs RIGHT IN OUR STORE



to show you how fast and cheap pork can be made on Purina

Yep, we've borrowed several pigs from one of our local hog men and set 'em up right in the store.

We are feeding our pigs Purina Baby Pig Chow now and will switch to Pig Startena a little later. They'll get Purina and water—that's all.

The pigs will be weighed every week and a record kept of every pound they eat.

We know how this demonstration will come out, because we know what Purina will do. But we want you to see for yourself the fast, low-cost gains our pigs make. That's the surest way to make you another of our satisfied Purina customers.

Come in and get acquainted with our pigs today... and come see them often.

Your Store with the Checkerboard Sign

CLINE - BRADLEY COMPANY

Joe Cline - Dick Bradley

5 Points Hazelwood



It Is More Necessary Than Ever To Make Your TOBACCO CROP TOP QUALITY and HIGH YIELD.

in order to keep your income up on the reduced acreage allotments.

Many of the finest productions of TOBACCO in

Haywood and adjoining counties are being made with

BLUE RIDGE SPECIAL TOBACCO PLANT FOOD

starting in the plant bed, and following through to maturity with BLUE RIDGE BRANDS prepared especially for that purpose.

These high quality TOBACCO FERTILIZERS are made to assure best results, and contain a maximum of 2% chlorine and a minimum of 2% magnesium (1% water soluble added) at greater cost than many other Tobaccos brands offered — but they sell at the same price.

Check The Guarantee Tag Before You Buy

SMOKY MOUNTAINS FERTILIZER CO.

Ask Your Dealer For
BLUE RIDGE PLANT FOOD