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The Mountaineer's

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# Farm Review and Forecast



## Buyers Don't Want Lard - Type Pork

Some farmers realize that it's foolish to produce something that won't sell. George Cameron of Wilson, Route 1, and McKinley Barnes of Elm City, Route 1, agree that there's no point in producing lard-type hogs—the buyers don't want them.

Wilson County Agent W. G. Pierce says that Cameron and Barnes are trying to do something about getting away from the lard-type animal. Both have good brood sows with meat-type characteristics. They're now on the lookout for boars with the same characteristics.

In addition, they're planning a balanced feeding program and close contact with their sows at farrowing time.

## Warm Weather To Bring Poultrymen New Problems

Hot, humid weather isn't too far away and with such weather comes more problems for Tar Heel poultrymen, says R. S. Dearstyne of the State College poultry science department.

Dearstyne says that while external parasite infestations may occur at any time on any age birds, warm, humid weather of spring appears to be very suitable for lice or mites or both. Irritation from these pests throw the birds off feed and can seriously retard growth.

Birds infested with lice are unthrifty and show ruffled feathers, lack of activity, and a lag in appe-

titie. Most hatcheries and feed stores handle materials for removing lice and these materials are quite effective if directions on the containers are carefully followed.

Red mites are barely visible to the human eye but they give the birds a fit. They attack at night, feeding on the blood, and go off the body in the daytime, hiding in the cracks and crevices on the perches, nests, walls, and possibly in the litter. There are several ways of getting rid of them. The best methods usually call for spraying or painting the areas which might harbor the mites during the day.

## Treated Soybean Seeds Produce Better Stands

Treating soybean seed before planting will result in better stands and higher yields, according to J. C. Wells, State College extension plant pathologist.

Experimental tests have shown that treatment of the seed increases the germination rate and stand survival of plants in the field. Wells says this is especially true where seed harbor damping-off germs which frequently kill young seedlings, and where seed are planted early.

Wells says that 1/25th of a bushel of soybeans will pay for enough material to treat all the seed needed to plant an acre.

The recommended material to use is Thiram (Aracon, Thiram Dust). This chemical should be used at the rate of two ounces (eight level tablespoonsful) per bushel of seed.

Soybeans can be treated very easily in a barrel-type treater or any convenient tight drum, barrel or lard stand. First, place the seed in the treater, which should be half full for each operation; second, spread the required amount of chemical dust over the seed; close lid tight and rotate the container for several minutes until the seed are uniformly coated with the dust.

The slurry method of treating soybeans is also recommended where slurry equipment is available.

A nationwide effort to find methods of increasing milk consumption is being carried out by the Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

A "systemic" cotton insecticide, applied as seed treatment, has proved highly effective in controlling early-season cotton pests in field tests throughout the South this year, USDA reports.

## Annual FHA Rally Installs New Officers

The Haywood County Future Homemakers of America held its annual rally Friday night, April 13, at Crabtree school with approximately 150 FHA members from Canton, Clyde, Bethel, Crabtree, Fines Creek and Waynesville attending.

Miss Joan Davis, county president from the Fines Creek chapter, presided at the meeting. Miss Elaine Curtis of the Clyde chapter, county vice president, presented the devotional program, after which she gave a brief report on the State Convention held last weekend in Raleigh. It was also brought out that Elaine Curtis and Joy Young received their State Homemakers' degree at the meeting in Raleigh.

The highlight of the program consisted of skits presented by each chapter emphasizing the goal of the association of "working for good home and family life for all." Miss Martha Caldwell, president of the Crabtree chapter, gave the welcome and Louise Pressnell of that chapter led group singing through the evening. Others on the program included Miss Barbara Jones, Bethel chapter, county secretary and Miss Betty Jo Calhoun, Waynesville, treasurer.

New officers were installed in a ceremony at the close of the meeting. They were: president, Miss Beverly Chambers, Crabtree-Iron Duff High School; vice president, Carolyn Trantham, Canton; secretary, Susie Clark, Waynesville; treasurer, Frances Henson, Bethel; reporter and historian, Amelia Robinson, Clyde; and song leader, Gail Bradshaw, Fines Creek.

Miss Lois Jean Buckner, home-making teacher at Bethel High School, is County FHA adviser.

### USE NEW HYBRID SEED CORN EVERY YEAR!

Hybrid	Yield (bushels per acre)
DIXIE 82	41.8
N. C. 27	40.3
DIXIE 18	29.1
Blue Top Seed	58.0
Blue Top Seed	52.8
Blue Top Seed	46.3

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The alfalfa seed crop is estimated at nearly 214 million pounds, a third larger than last year, and 18 per cent above the record year in 1952.

Development and release of new and improved alfalfa varieties have spread the use of this legume over wide, new areas of the country.

In August the 50,000th herd sire in North Carolina was proved through analysis of Dairy Herd Improvement Association records.

This year's North Carolina cotton crop averaged 354 pounds of lint per acre, 35 pounds above the 1954 average yield per acre and 20 pounds above the 10-year average.

## BIG NEWS FROM ROGERS TRACTOR Co.

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

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- ✓ Saves time, labor
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## Good Housekeeping Averts Many Accidents At Home

By RUTH CURRENT  
State Home Demonstration Agent

Spring is a good time to clean equipment, repair and replace any worn parts.

Do all dry cleaning of winter clothes for storage outdoors or, better yet, send articles to the cleaners.

Do not overfuse and do not tamper with a fuse. Replace old or frayed outlet cords. Replace defective appliances or have them repaired.

Keep matches and lighters away from children. Cultivate careful smoking habits.

Be careful with other known causes of fire: hot grease, paraffin, rubbish, and the like.

Plug electric ranges into heavy-duty outlets. Disconnect appliances by pulling plug and not the cord. Do not leave knives or scissors lying about.

Do not use cords under rugs. See that enough ashtrays are placed about rooms.

Do not smoke in bed. Always have a night light or flashlight beside the bed for use in case of emergency. Place electrical equip-

ment where it cannot be reached from the tub or basin.

Hold handrail when ascending or descending steps or stairs. Make sure stairs are well lighted both night and day. Keep halls clear of toys and other articles.

Ground all electric washers and driers.

## Gardening Tasks Now Are Pressing

By ROBERT SCHMIDT

At this time of the year the jobs that must be done in the garden are so many that it is hard to know what to emphasize.

In the vegetable garden the time is getting short for planting the cool season crops. Unless these crops get well started before hot weather sets in the quality will be poor.

Starter solutions have given good results in getting the plant off to an early start. A good starter solution may be made by dissolving one pound of a complete fertilizer such as an 8-8-8 or 6-6-6 in five gallons of water. Water each newly set plant with one-half pint of this solution. The results are worth the extra effort.

If you haven't already done so, top-dress your lawn with poultry manure or about 20 pounds of a good garden fertilizer per 1,000 square feet of area. Follow this with light applications of nitrogen during the summer.

Shrubs and trees should be fertilized at this time also because most of the new growth is made from now until mid-summer. Spring flowering shrubs may be pruned as soon as they are through blooming. Only necessary pruning or thinning out is advisable. If ligustrums or other rank growing evergreens are to be pruned severely, now is a good time to do it because the new growth will come out immediately.

In the fruit garden, mulch strawberries with pine straw or short wheat straw. It will keep the berries off the ground and also prevent sand from splashing onto the berries in rainy weather.

Dewberries, boysenberries, and raspberries should be thinned to six or eight good canes per hill and tied up to stakes or wires.

## State College Answers Timely Farm Questions

QUESTION: What are some requirements for a good pullet range?

ANSWER: A good range should be rested for a year between pullet crops. It should have a leafy, succulent grazing crop on it. Legumes are preferred for this purpose. In addition, it's important that the range have some sort of shade on it — either natural or artificial.

QUESTION: What is the best way to remove Bermuda grass from my garden site?

ANSWER: Remove the grass by treating the area with Methyl Bromide, by removing all roots by hand, or by treating the area with soil sterilant such as "Atlaclade," T.C.A., or "Dalapon." If soil sterilant is used, it will be several weeks or months before soil will be productive. Once all Bermuda is removed, chemicals can be used around the garden and along the borders to keep the grass from re-entering.

QUESTION: Is it a good idea to give an "expectant" sow antibiotics?

ANSWER: USDA tests have shown that an extra pig or two per litter may result when the diet of the mother sow is supplemented with an antibiotic during her gestation. This was due to birth of more live pigs and better ability of the pigs to survive until weaned.

ment where it cannot be reached from the tub or basin.

Hold handrail when ascending or descending steps or stairs. Make sure stairs are well lighted both night and day. Keep halls clear of toys and other articles.

Ground all electric washers and driers.

### Security turns little pigs into BIG HOGS

Security's Pork Production Program pays off in tons of profitable pork. Here's the program that provides a feed for every stage of growth from three days old to market. Security Pig Starter gets them off to a good start. Security Pig Grower piles gains on top of early gains and prepares pigs for fattening. Security Big Hog Feed turns pigs into big hogs. Every feed has the right proportions of energy, proteins, vitamins and minerals to get pigs to market. See us today.

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