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Farm Review and Forecast

Irrigation Systems Advised For Growing Of Vegetables

By ROBERT SCHMIDT

It seems out of place to talk about irrigation when we are having plenty of rain, but it has been my experience that you cannot depend on natural rainfall if you expect to grow high quality vegetables. You should have an inch of rainfall each week during the main growing season. When the rain fails, the same amount of water should be applied from other sources—a pond, well, stream, or city water supply.

If the garden area is flat, surface or furrow irrigation may be used. If not, one of the overhead sprinkler systems may be used. The most popular and effective type is one having a standpipe with a rotating nozzle at the top. Expensive, you say? Perhaps, if you think in terms of one year, but you will use the equipment over a number of years, and think of all the vegetables and berries that you will save by its use.

A friend who has been selling irrigation systems for commercial operations in this state said that in one year he sold more equipment for irrigating pastures than for any other purpose. If it is not too expensive for pastures, it certainly is not too expensive for the vegetable garden which should furnish your table and local market with the best products to be had.

Careful Handling Increases Value Of Farm Produce

Vegetables must be better graded and more carefully handled, if Tar Heel vegetable growers are to compete on today's market, according to George S. Abshier, State College consumer marketing specialist.

Abshier says, "we can't start to market with trash and expect it to be graded up to an edible product. There is a good potential for commercial production of high quality vegetables. But we can't stop at the end of the row."

Skill Needed In Selecting Best Foods

"How does the consumer decide on what is a good buy?" asks George Abshier, extension consumer marketing specialist at State College. He says that wise food buying requires a high degree of skill and a broad knowledge of many products.

In its simplest economic terms, according to Abshier, a good buy is determined by the amount of satisfaction received per unit of cost, compared to other choices.

Cost and satisfaction must be weighed carefully, along with other factors, such as convenience, facilities, and family tastes.

Cost involves more than money. Proper judgment of the real cost, says Abshier, involves calculation of cost per pound, and the ultimate cost per serving of the final edible product.

The cost per serving may vary greatly according to the form of the product, whether fresh, frozen, or canned, and the manner of packaging.

According to Abshier, convenience of preparation, serving, and storing should be considered. Prepared foods provide greater convenience at greater cost. The extra cost of this "built-in maid service" may offset the time and energy saved, especially for homemakers working outside the home.

The satisfaction a food provides the consumer is the major test in determining a good buy. The taste, attractiveness, and general quality affect the satisfaction.

Wise buying is a big job, says Abshier, and determining the good buys is a matter of weighing all the factors. The results will vary, but the final test is whether the maximum amount of family satisfaction is obtained from the expenditure for food.



OF SPECIAL INTEREST in Haywood County at present is the widening and deepening of creeks to provide faster runoff of water to avoid flooding during heavy rains. Such a project is now planned in the Cove Creek area. This picture

was taken last winter when a drag line operator was working at Raceoon Creek on the Mountain Experiment Station property.

(Mountaineer Photo.)

State College Answers Timely Farm Questions

QUESTION: Should I shut my cows up in a dry lot at night?

ANSWER: No. Experiment Station results prove that cows do approximately three-fourths of their grazing at night during the hot summer months. Plan to have good pastures for night grazing to take advantage of this.

QUESTION: I would like to start a small flock of chickens but don't have much money to spend. What advice can you give me?

ANSWER: It doesn't take too much money to start and maintain a small flock of chickens on the farm. On practically all farms, there are some structures that can be converted into shelters. Roosts, nests, and feed hoppers can be constructed of scrap lumber and if necessary, old pails or cans can be used. If you start with only one chicken, however, make sure it's a good one and take good care of it.

QUESTION: When is the best time to poison pine mice?

ANSWER: The ideal time to control mice is in the fall. However, they can be poisoned at this time if you have the time to spare from all the other work that needs to be done at his time of the year.

Increase Foreseen In Price Of Broilers, Hatching Eggs

There's something to the old belief that "the best time to get into a farm enterprise is when others are getting out," according to Clayton P. Libeau, State College extension farm management and marketing specialist.

Libeau says that this is especially evident as far as the hatching egg and broiler industry is concerned at the present time.

He explains that the low broiler, hatching egg prices at the present time are already discouraging growers. With prices at 60 cents and the possibility of them getting lower in the main hatching egg supply areas, many growers are already considering selling their flocks.

The liquidation of hatching egg supply flocks in the fall of 1956 would result in a scarcity of hatching eggs in the latter part of 1956 and the first half of 1957. This would mean higher broiler prices as well as higher hatching egg prices.

Libeau points out that those wanting a very profitable year might consider entering both hatching eggs and broiler production at the very time many people are discouraged or are leaving the industry because of poor prices.

He adds that with a cutback in pork production and higher beef grades, higher prices for broilers are almost assured for the next

County Agents Asked To Perform Unusual Chores

Warren County Agent W. A. Godley says a county agent never knows what he might be called upon to do.

Recently, while visiting C. C. Kearney, a farmer in the Snow Hill community, Warrenton, he suddenly found himself in the role of a "mouse catcher."

Kearney told him that he had a peculiar odor in his kitchen and he couldn't find what was causing it. He suspected it might be a dead rat in the hot water tank, a flat-top job.

So Godley went to work, removed the top and side of the heater, and found a mass of rock wool—equally good for insulation or for harboring misplaced rodents. Finally, he stumbled on the cause itself, a dead mouse, which he removed and burned.

Godley says that he was amused most by Kearney who absented himself from the scene of action but yelled encouraging remarks from the back yard.

Kearney admitted he was afraid of two kinds of mice—dead ones and live ones.

In a move to check the spread of the Mediterranean fruit fly, USDA has awarded a contract to a firm to spray 180,000 acres along the southeastern coast of Florida.

About one-fourth of all accidents to farm people occur in and about their homes.

GRASS SILAGE STAYS FRESH, SWEET OVER 6 MONTHS WITH STA-FRESH



The calves here are enjoying silage that was "put up" with "Sta-Fresh" Sodium Bisulfite. They love it because it's so sweet and fresh. "Sta-Fresh" makes wonderfully beautiful fodder. Tests show bisulfite silage is extra high in carotene (Vitamin A), sugar, digestible dry matter, and total digestible nutrients (TDN). "STA-FRESH" prevents silage spoilage, too. It's low-cost and easy to apply. We carry General Chemical's "STA-FRESH" in 80 lb. bags (1 bag treats 10 tons of silage). See us today.



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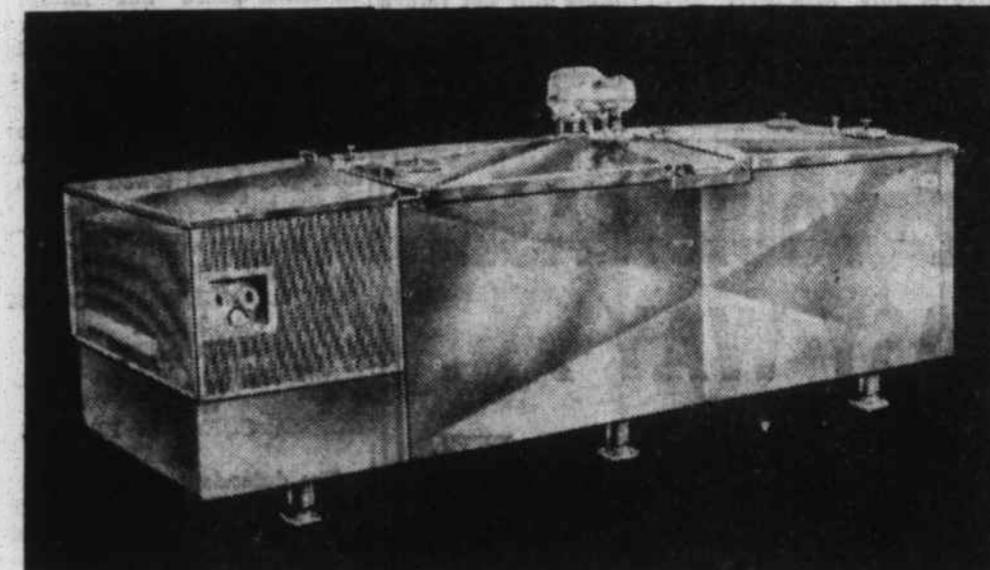
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Say I Saw It In The Mountaineer

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We have just completed the installation of ESCO BULK FARM TANKS at the dairy farms of Mr. and Mrs. Oral Yates of Iron Duff and Mr. and Mrs. Wilson Burnette of the Lovejoy Road section. We congratulate them for having bought one of the finest pieces of dairy equipment on the market today. And, in addition to getting a fine milk cooling machine, they have assured themselves of prompt and dependable service any time of the day or night that trouble might develop. Every ESCO ICY-WALL TANK carries a 10-year warranty, and the compressors are guaranteed for 5 years. If a compressor should fail during that period it will be replaced immediately (from our stock) and without charge. Where else can you get such service? It will pay you to investigate before you buy!



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Haywood County CHECKERBOARD NEWS
By Joe Cline and Dick Bradley
CLINE-BRADLEY COMPANY

WE'RE WORKING AT CUTTING FEEDING COSTS

No one knows any better than we do that our neighbors and friends... the farmers... are experiencing tougher times. Low prices on farm-produced items forced farm incomes even lower in '55 than they were in '54.

Although we don't have much control of farm prices, we can and are helping farmers improve feeding, management, sanitation and even breeding efficiency. By giving real service right on the farms we are helping farmers produce at lower cost, giving them increased profits.

We're not alone in our efforts. Back of us is the vast Purina organization dedicated to improving animal agriculture through research. New and more efficient feed ingredients are constantly being developed in their huge laboratory. They are tested for months, even years, at the Purina Research Farms before getting a stamp of approval. Only after complete testing are they put into the famous Checkerboard Bag.

That's why Purina Chows are known coast to coast for giving high returns per feed dollar invested. Let us put this vast "know-how" and experience to work for you. Stop in soon.



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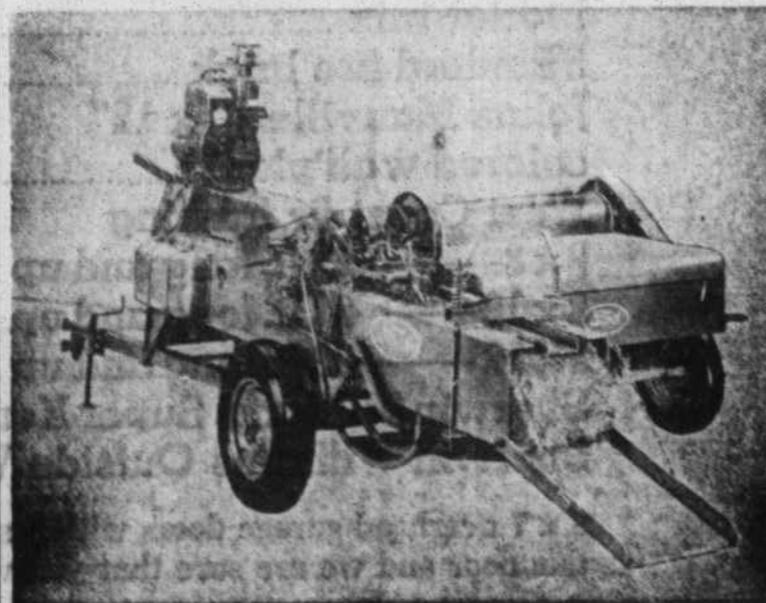
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Joe Cline - Dick Bradley

5 Points

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 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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