

MONDAY PUBLISHED EVERY

The Mountaineer's

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Farm Review and Forecast

Down On The Farm

County Agent's Column

Nathan Carver, a burley tobacco grower of the Hemphill community, says that his next crop of burley will be planted to Burley 11-B.

Mr. Carver has had trouble with black shank and has experimented with several varieties. He is satisfied with the yield and quality of Burley 11-B, and is planting this variety due to its resistance to black shank. He recommends that any farmer who has had trouble with black shank plant a black shank resistant variety such as Burley 11-B or Burley 11-A.

and up, that returned over \$100.00 net, while a 300-pound medium steer calf returned only about \$50.00.

Certainly it doesn't take double the amount of feed and pasture to keep the cow that produced the 500-pound calf. Beef breeders can efficiently cull their herds on the dollar returns from their cows, bearing in mind that it takes quality and pounds to return the most dollars.

J. L. Rhodarmar, part-time dairy farmer of Morning Star Community, is sold on the idea of fertilizing each acre on his farm, according to the recommendations of North Carolina State College and the Extension Service.

He became a Unit Test Demonstration Farmer in 1955, and after seeing the yields of his silage corn double, and the sods of his pasture thicken and produce grass through a long dry season, he is convinced that fertilizers and lime really don't cost—they pay. He has built a new silo so that he can utilize his corn crop to best advantage, and says his cows are producing at the best rate they have ever produced—this after two years of fertilizing his crops properly.

Over three hundred feeder calves were marketed by Haywood County farmers in the recent feeder calf sale held in Asheville. Farmers from the county selling calves were well pleased with the sale, and took a great deal of interest in the grading of the animals. As a result of the sale and the interest by farmers in the grading system, several farmers have decided to purchase better herd sires in the near future.

Once again at the feeder calf sale we were impressed by the fact that early calves return more money to their owners. Many Haywood County breeders had choice steer calves weighing 500 pounds

State College Answers Timely Farm Questions

QUESTION: How much ventilation should you have for laying hens?

ANSWER: For ventilation, provide one square foot of open space for each 8 to 10 feet of floor space in the house. Windows should be placed on all sides of the house to furnish light and extra ventilation in the hot summer months. A removable board all around the house means the farmer can keep the house cool in the summer.

QUESTION: What type of soil is best for alfalfa?

ANSWER: Alfalfa grows best on well drained clay soils. However, it will grow satisfactorily on light sandy soils, especially if the sandy soil has a clay subsoil. Alfalfa is very sensitive to poor drainage and will not live long if planted on a soil that has a high water table or poor drainage. It cannot stand "wet feet."

QUESTION: Why will grain sorghum withstand drought better than many other crops?

ANSWER: Grain sorghum has an inherent ability to withstand drought. The plants become almost dormant during periods when the water is scarce. They start growing again when the plants are supplied with water. This one feature has allowed grain sorghum to compete successfully with other summer crops during the dry season.

QUESTION: When should you begin culling laying hens?

ANSWER: Culling should really begin early, as good management

of chicks will improve the performance of the hens. Start culling when you place the chicks under the brooder. Promptly cull all chicks that appear runty or weak. Kill them and dispose of them by burning or deep burying.

QUESTION: Why have trench silos become more popular?

ANSWER: Both the temporary and permanent types of trench silos will usually have more spoilage. However, they are lower in cost than most upright types, and they may save labor in filling and emptying. They can be located so that vehicles can be driven through them for dumping. They are very easily adapted to self feeding the cattle.

QUESTION: Should I grow feed for my dairy cattle?

ANSWER: Feed for the dairy cow, in so far as is practical, should be produced on the farm. Commercially speaking, the cow is a marketing agent for farm feeds. If her feed is grown on some other farm or in a distant section, transportation and handling costs are involved. In this way, the cow is handicapped from the start in converting such feed into profitable milk and butterfat. North Carolina farms can produce legume hay, silage crops, corn, cotton seed, soybeans, peanuts, small grains, and good pasture—all the necessary feeds for profitable milk production.

QUESTION: What effect does weather have on forage crop diseases?

ANSWER: Weather conditions, especially temperature and moisture, largely determine the destructiveness of the disease. They are responsible for a disease being of epidemic proportions one season and of minor consequence the next. Unfortunately, weather conditions in North Carolina favor the development and spread of certain forage diseases the year around.

Use Mountaineer Want Ads.



A DEAD CEDAR tree gets green paint, not water, from the hose held by caretaker Eugene Nelson on the landscaped top of Kansas City's underground auto park.

Dead Trees Remain Green With Help Of Some Paint

By LEO MARKS

HAY CROPS
The condition of current hay crops is reported as mostly fair to good, with the proportion of fair and good reports distributed about evenly throughout the State.

APPLES
The reported condition of the current apple crop showed some decline during the week. Prospects for the crop appear to be best in the commercial producing mountain counties.

PASTURES
The condition of pastures showed little or no change from the previous week. Pasture condition is reported as mostly fair to good in all areas.

TOBACCO
For all practical purposes, burley tobacco crop has been harvested as of the week ended October 20. Some tobacco was reported as unharvested. However, the unharvested acreage would consist of only a minor part of the total acreage in the area.

Egg production in North Carolina during June, 1956, is estimated at 137 million eggs—9 per cent above the June, 1955, figure.



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Many Haywood Farmers Turning To Grass Farming

By ROY R. BECK

Soil Conservation Service
Many farmers are turning to all grass farming for conservation, efficiency, and quality livestock feeding. Some farmers don't even own a plow.

Glenn Noland of Fines Creek is planning to seed all but his tobacco allotment to grass during the next two years. Mr. Noland also plans to install field drain tile this winter below the Billy Noland house.

Red Canary grass is helping Noland hold stream banks in place on Fines Creek, where it passes through his farm. This grass, which cattle graze well, grows right to the water on these banks. It takes a lot of punishment when the creek gets up before being torn loose by swift flowing water. Glenn has given six bushels of sprigs to two other Soil Conservation District cooperators for controlling erosion on the back slopes of farm pond dams.

Another Fines Creek farmer, Grover Ferguson, plans to dig out 500 feet of four-inch tile and replace with six-inch tile. Mr. Ferguson said the four-inch tile had never given satisfaction, for it had to be dug up and cleaned out each year.

The Panther Creek community is landscaping its cemetery. They plan to spruce the cemetery for Eulalia grass, build new roads and seed next spring to control erosion and beautify.

Cotton in cultivation on July 1 in North Carolina is estimated at 465,000 acres, or the smallest cotton acreage harvested in the state since 1871.

Trained inspectors stationed at border, sea and air ports, intercepted about 18,500 destructive insects—11,500 and 7,000 diseases, last year, according to USDA.

Adding nitrogen to the soil after crops are harvested to speed up decay of crop residues does not pay, says the USDA.

Egg Production Sets New High For September

Based on reports from producers, the September egg production is estimated at 129.3 million, a new high for the month and about 21 million above the 1955 previous record high production, according to the N. C. Crop Reporting Service. The September 1956 production represents an increase of about 2.6 million eggs from August.

The increase in egg production for September is attributed to an increase in number of hens and outlets of laying age per farm. Production per 100 layers is estimated at 1,401, which is the highest of record for the month, exceeding the old record high for September of 1955 by about 7 per cent.

Increased use of electricity on farms has led to lower average cost per kilowatt hour paid by farmers but somewhat higher monthly electric bills.



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Davis Completes SCS Course At U. Of Georgia

Carlyle Davis of the Haywood County Soil Conservation District has returned from a special training course at the University of Georgia, Athens, Ga., where he studied advanced courses in engineering, soils, forestry, aerial photography, biology, agronomy and public relations.

Davis was one of the three men chosen from North Carolina to attend this training course. He has been with the Soil Conservation Service for the past two years.

The Athens Training Center is one of five set up to train SCS personnel in the United States and her territories.

Twenty-three SCS employees representing North Carolina, Tennessee, Mississippi, Arkansas,

Robert Miller Given Army Promotion

BINDLACH, Germany — Robert E. Miller, 29, Route 1, Waynesville, recently was promoted to specialist third class while serving with the 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment in Germany.

Specialist Miller, a parts clerk in Headquarters Company of the regiment's 1st Battalion, entered the Army in November 1945 and arrived in Europe in August 1955.

In civilian life he attended high school in Mavard, Ark.

State College specialists suggest avoiding heavy dosages of insecticides and fungicides on edible crops. Follow directions carefully, and never apply more than is recommended.

Georgia, South Carolina and Alabama attended the course.

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