

THE DUPLIN TIMES

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TIMELY FARM QUESTIONS ANSWERED STATE COLLEGE

QUESTION: Are hens more valuable than pullets for breeding purposes?

ANSWER: Hens that are carried over from the pullet year are usually proven from a production standpoint and have the constitutional vigor to live through a season of heavy lay. Eggs from these hens are somewhat increased in size over the pullet eggs and usually produce a larger chick which has a tendency for higher livability. Taking these factors into consideration it would seem that chicks from hens are superior to chicks from pullets and would make the hens more valuable as breeders.

QUESTION: What fertilizer is recommended for use in a tobacco plant bed?

ANSWER: After the bed is thoroughly broken and the soil pulverized, two pounds of a 4-8-3 mixture, with the potash derived from sulphate of potash magnesia, should be applied to each square yard of the bed. The fertilizer should be thoroughly mixed with the soil for about three or four inches in depth. It is usually best to mix the seed with about two gallons of fertilizer or cottonseed meal so as to get an even distribution of seed. After the seed is sown the soil should be packed lightly over the entire bed.

QUESTION: How can I prevent my hams from souring?

ANSWER: The first precaution to take is to be sure that the animal is not overheated before killing and be sure to bleed the animal well after killing. All curing vessels should be scalded and the water for the brine or pickle should be boiled before using. Rub each ham with salt before packing for cure and, if brine cured, examine

brine every few days to see that it covers the entire contents of container. After curing, hang the ham from six to eight feet above fire and smoke to taste. If curing directions are followed and these precautions taken the meat will keep without souring.

Thompson Wins Negro - Corn Growing Contest

The State corn-growing contest for Negro farmers this year was won by A. G. Thompson, of Robeson County, who produced 101.9 bushels on a measured acre of land.

In producing this high yield, Thompson used methods recommended by the State College extension service, said C. R. Hudson, who has charge of extension work with Negro farmers.

Last January, Thompson broke his land by plowing to a depth of eight inches. He gave the field a light application of one ton of stable manure.

Hudson explained that more manure would have increased the yield still further, but Thompson had only a small amount available at the time.

On April 25, Thompson planted his seed, Latham's Double Eared variety, and applied 400 pounds of 3-8-3 fertilizer. His land is a light sandy loam.

When the stalks were about two feet high, he applied another 400 pounds of the same fertilizer. Just before the corn bunched for tassels, he gave it a side dressing of 200 pounds of nitrate of soda. While growing, the crop was cultivated three times.

At \$1 a bushel, the corn was

valued at \$101.90. The stever produced was worth \$17, and the soy beans grown with the corn were valued at \$8. This made a total return of \$126.90 from the acre.

It cost Thompson \$21.60 to produce the crop. His net profit was \$105.30.

As State winner, he will be with expenses paid by a commercial firm.

Edward Ballard, of Northampton, who produced 100.3 bushels of corn to the acre, won second place in the contest.

WAR ON INSECTS NEVER CEASES, BRANNON SAYS

The farmer's war on insects is a year-round battle, said C. H. Brannon, who has resigned as extension entomologist at State College to become entomologist for the State Department of Agriculture on January 15.

In January, for instances, there are a number of things good farmers should do to help keep insects under control.

Tobacco plant beds should be covered with a good grade of canvas having at least 26 strands to the inch. This helps protect the young plants from insects and bad weather too.

Keep a close check on the tobacco beds for the small worms which often damage the plants seriously during warm dry periods when they are just coming up.

When worms are found, apply naphthalene flakes at the rate of one and a half pounds to each 100 square yards of plant bed.

Orchardmen should apply the dormant spray for scale control. Oil makes the best spray for this purpose.

Insect pests in stored seed can be eradicated by placing the seed in a barrel or other air-tight container and giving it a dose of carbon bisulphide. Or the chemical may be placed in the seed bins, if the bins are almost airtight. Sacks should be placed over the seed in the bin to hold the gas in.

Meat can be protected from skippers by wrapping in heavy paper and placing it in thin cloth sacks that can be tied securely, or by screening the storage room.

Poisoned wheat bait, placed in tin cans at the foot of fruit trees will control field mice in the orchards. Place a teaspoonful bait in a can, with the lid bent out enough to let the mice in, but not enough to let rain or birds get inside.

Potash Controls Rust And Increases Yields

Side applications of \$3 worth of muriate of potash and nitrate of soda to the acre increased the value of seven Bertie County farmers' cotton crop by an average of \$22.92 per acre.

The applications were made this year in cotton rust control demonstrations conducted under the supervision of B. E. Grant, county farm agent of the State College extension service.

In the demonstrations, each farmer set aside four plats where the soil was as near uniform as possible. Each was fertilized with the customary mixture containing nitrogen, phosphoric acid, and potash.

As a check plat, one field on each farm was cultivated without any other fertilization. The average yield of the check plats was 995 pounds of seed cotton to the acre.

On plat No. 2, 100 pounds of nitrate of soda were applied as

Congressman Returns To Washington



PHOTO SHOWS BARDEN AS HE LEFT THERE LAST SUMMER

In the above photo Congressman Graham A. Barden is shown shaking hands with Speaker William B. Bankhead (Alabama) as Congress adjourned early last summer. The Third District Representative left New Betn for Washington Sunday afternoon to be on hand when Congress convened this week. Since Congress adjourned Representative Barden has been through a strenuous political campaign but he says victory for his Party and the largest majority ever given a Third District Congressional representative for himself. Congressman Barden is very anxious for the people of this territory to call on him for any Congressional assistance—anytime.

a side dressing, and the average yield was 1,145 pounds to the acre.

In all plats where muriate of potash was used, the cotton was protected from rust, Grant stated, the bolls were better opened, more fluffy, and the staple was of higher quality.

The muriate of potash cost \$1.60 and the nitrate of soda cost \$1.40 per acre. The increased yield of 573 pounds of seed cotton, where both side dressings were applied, was valued at four cents a pound or \$22.92.

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