

### Watermelons In Southeastern States

The Bureau of Agricultural Economics, U. S. Department of Agriculture, recently released the following information about watermelons in the Southeastern States:

"In view of the relatively high prices received by growers for watermelons in the four Southeastern States (Florida, Georgia, South Carolina and North Carolina) in the 1936 season, it is probable that the acreage planted to watermelons in 1937 in these areas will be increased sharply. This larger acreage with average yields would result in a larger production than was harvested in 1936, and cause prices to decline to slightly lower levels. If yields per acre were somewhat larger than average, the expanded acreage would increase production sharply and prices for the 1937 season would average much lower than in 1936.

On the basis of the relationship existing between the acreage planted to watermelons in the four Southeastern states and the prices received by growers the previous year, it is indicated that the total acreage planted in 1937 to watermelons in these areas may be increased by at least one-fourth. This increase would mean a total for the four states of 137,000 acres compared with 108,800 acres harvested in 1936, and it would be the largest available for harvest since 1931.

A review of the average yield per acre for the Southeastern states indicates that yields have declined sharply during the last 15 years. For the 5-year period 1922-26 the average yield was 329 melons per acre. During the next 5 years it was 313 melons, while for the last 5 years the average was only 208 melons per acre. This sharp decline in yields during this period is not dissimilar to the decline that has taken place in many of the other important truck crops for fresh market shipment. It may be observed that as the acreages of these crops expanded sharply during the last 15 years, yields per acre declined fairly sharply.

On the basis of present acreage indications and with yields equal to the average of the last 5 years, a production of 28,500,000 melons is indicated for these four states. If it is assumed that yields will be equal to the lowest yield of the last 5 years, production would total 23,300,000 melons, but if the highest yields are assumed a production of 32,000,000 melons may be expected. Since watermelon growers in the South-

eastern states received relatively high prices for the 1936 crop, there is a possibility that better cultural methods will be employed in the production of the 1937 crop. This could take the form of better care of fields, heavier applications of fertilizers, the purchase of better seed, etc. If such action should be taken and growing conditions should be favorable, higher yields per acre would be obtained. If the per-acre yield should be somewhere between the average of the last 5 years and the average of the preceding 5 years—say 260 melons per acre—production on the indicated acreage would total about 35,000,000 melons. This would compare with 24,740,000 melons produced in 1936 and with 26,000,000 melons, the recent 5-year (1932-36) average production in these states.

On the basis of the lower indicated production of 1937 (based upon the prospective plantings and yields equal to the average of the last 5 years), and on demand conditions somewhat improved over those of 1936, prices received by watermelon growers in the four Southeastern states in 1937 would average slightly lower than they did in 1936, or about \$125 per acre of 1,000 melons, against \$145 in 1936. On the other hand, if the larger indicated crop were produced and demand conditions were improved, the price to growers in the four states probably would average much lower, possibly as low as \$80 per acre."

A large shipper of melons expressed disappointment last season over the unsatisfactory condition of the melon industry in certain sections of eastern North Carolina. He expressed the opinion that proper care was not being used in growing melons for market—that many farmers who had continued to grow melons took little interest in the crop. It is for this reason that I am using excerpts from Bulletin No. 18, "Watermelon Culture in the Coastal Plain of Georgia" issued by Georgia Coastal Experiment Station, Tifton, Georgia, as Georgia leads all other states in watermelon production.

The watermelon is particularly adapted to the light, sandy loam soils and warm climatic conditions of South Georgia. Watermelons should be grown either on new land or in a long-time rotation with non-related crops. The preparation of the land is not exacting, but should be of such nature that a good seed bed is pre-

pared. Data obtained from the study of the plant food requirements of watermelons, indicate that the highest yield may be expected from a formula carrying 8 percent phosphoric acid, 4 percent ammonia and 6 to 8 percent potash.

Fertilizers of high concentration are comparing favorably with standard mixtures.

Increases in yield have resulted from the application of 1,600 pounds of fertilizer per acre, although the use of 800 pounds is considered a more conservative farm practice.

Synthetic nitrogen products are showing to excellent advantage as ammonia carriers for watermelon fertilizer, while kainit appears to be the most desirable potash carrier.

Among commercial varieties, Watson is more generally grown, while Stone Mountain (Dixie Bell) is the heaviest bearer and is unexcelled in quality. Thurmond Grey produces larger melons than any variety included in the test, but it is slightly less productive than Watson and of poorer quality.

Growers should exercise every precaution possible in procuring good seed.

Spores that are carried on the surface of watermelon seed may be killed by proper seed treatment.

Data obtained from planting dates shows the highest yields resulting from early plantings.

In the spacing test with watermelons the highest yield was produced by plantings spaced ten feet each way.

About one pound of seed will be required for each acre.

Planting should be done by hand. Thinning of the young plants should be done gradually.

Cultivation should begin as soon as the young plants appear above the ground and should be continued as long as vine growth will permit.

Early pruning of the Watson variety should consist of removing only those melons that are undesirable for market purposes. The vines should not be cut back.

The melon crop is subject to attack by a number of insects and diseases. There are effective control measures for each.

Immature watermelons do not ripen in transit and should not be harvested. Melons should be cut from the vines with a sharp knife, leaving the stems as long as possible. Care should be exercised also in harvesting melons to prevent their being bruised or scratched. They should be hauled, loaded and started to market the same day they are cut from the vines.

### Damp Brooder House Propagates Disease

Excessive moisture in the brooder house contributes to the development of coccidiosis and respiratory diseases in young chicks.

Coccidiosis germs propagate rapidly in a warm moist environment, explained C. F. Parrish, State College extension poultry specialist.

And dampness lowers the chicks' resistance to diseases affecting the respiratory tract, or breathing passages, he added.

One cause of dampness in many brooder houses is the tin roof supported by a few boards nailed to the rafters. The tin collects moisture, or sweats.

This trouble may be corrected by providing a solid roof of boards between the tin and the rafters, Parrish stated. If the roof has already been built, extra boards may be slipped in the space left between the tin

roof and the rafters.

Another frequent cause of excessive dampness is improper construction of the brooder house floor, especially when the house is on a poorly drained site.

Parrish pointed out that first of all, the site should be protected from excess moisture. If necessary, a small ditch may be dug around the house to drain off the excess.

Several inches of cinders or coarse gravel should be put down inside the house to provide good drainage. Then cover them with tar paper and pour the concrete over the tar paper.

Where the floors have already been laid, dampness may be lessened by placing tar paper over the concrete and then pouring an additional layer of cement on top of that, Parrish pointed out.

However, he added, some moisture is necessary to keep the chicks in good health and to aid them in feathering. When the brooder house is too dry, it is advisable to place an open vessel of water on top of the brooder.

### Eyes Of World On Roanoke Island As Anniversary Nears

Roanoke Island will this year be conspicuous in the news of the world by reason of the celebration of the 350th anniversary of the settling of Sir Walter Raleigh's Lost Colony, which begins July Fourth and continues through September sixth.

D. B. Fearing, chairman in charge of arrangements, reported while in Raleigh that requests for information had come from the leading newspapers of London and other English cities as well as in America. Particular emphasis has been placed upon the settlement of Roanoke Island because it marks the beginning of English civilization in America.

Oberammergau in Upper Bavaria, Germany, has long been noted throughout the world for the Passion Play, which attracts people from everywhere. While the celebration of Roanoke Island will be celebrated by the presentation of a historic pageant, under the direction of Paul Green, it will differ completely from the Oberammergau sacred pageant, but there will be a similarity in that it is planned to make the Roanoke Pageant an institution just as is the Oberammergau pageant.

The celebration will be held at Manteo, the county-seat of Dare, which is now as accessible as any other county-seat in North Carolina. Formerly this point on the map of Eastern North Carolina was so completely isolated that it was supplanted in interest by the later settlements at Jamestown in Virginia and Plymouth Rock in Massachusetts.

The three hundredth Anniversary of the settlement of Jamestown was celebrated with an exposition at Norfolk, but it is not planned to make the celebration at Roanoke Island an

exposition, or anything like an exposition, according to Mr. Fearing, although the restoration of the old fort, the chapel and other buildings give to the historic spot a peculiar interest, which will be enhanced by the presentation of the historic pageant.

Not far distant is the Wright Memorial, marking the spot where man first rose into the air in a heavier than air machine, and this is also a world renowned spot.

### To Give Broadcast On 4-H Club Work

Durham County will furnish chief actors in the fourth of a series of broadcasts featuring North Carolina 4-H club members over Radio Station WPTF, Raleigh, Saturday, March 13.

The theme of these broadcasts is "How 4-H Club Work Aids Youth in the Art of Living". L. R. Harrill, club leader at State College, opened the series of programs on January

30, using the above theme as a subject for his talk.

The next talk came February 16 when Marvin Foyles, outstanding club member of Lenoir County, told how club work had aided him in his work.

Four members from two of Wake County's clubs appeared on the program February 27, and described how club work had benefitted them in adjusting themselves to life.

These 4-H broadcasts are heard every other Saturday as a part of the Carolina Farm Features program, Mr. Harrill, who is arranging the programs, says that he is attempting to bring prominent club boys and girls from nearby counties to tell of their 4-H experiences.

### FARMERS ANXIOUS

It was necessary to use amplifiers at the Cleveland County courthouse recently when farmers gathered to hear the 1937 farm program explained could not all get into the auditorium.

## For Coughs and Colds USE VIN-KRE-OL

Pleasant to Take . . . Quick Relief

### Roberson's Drug Store

PRESCRIPTION DRUGGIST

"On The Corner"

HERTFORD

NORTH CAROLINA

### "I PUT EMPHASIS ON GOOD DIGESTION,"

SAYS THIS FAMOUS BOXING COACH



**JOHNNY BEHR** says: "With Camels, my digestion works smoothly." Camels speed up the flow of digestive fluids—alkaline fluids.

Camels Costlier Tobaccos!



**FOOD EDITOR, Dorothy Malone**, says: "The smart touch is to have Camels on the table from hors d'oeuvres through dessert. Camels add a world of pleasure to eating."

## TAYLOR THEATRE

EDENTON, N. C.

WE HAVE THE SHOWS

Today and Friday, March 11-12—

Theatre opens at 2 P. M. and runs continuously today (Thursday).



Act — News

Saturday, March 13—



Also Our Gang Comedy "Darkest Africa" No. 11

Monday, March 15—

**JACK T. EDWARDS** Presents

### "The Chateau Revue"

Featuring — The Chateau Rhythmasters A Nine Piece Band

**BOMBAY** Star Tenor of Roxy and His Gang

Edwards & Morris, Comedians

LaSalle Sisters and June

Bunny Holmes & Co.

On the Screen **ROGER PRYOR** and **GRACE BRADLEY** in

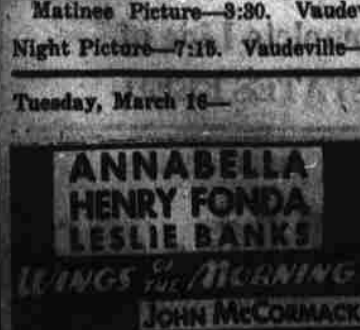


Shows at

Matinee Picture—3:30. Vaudeville, 4:30. Admission—10c - 25c

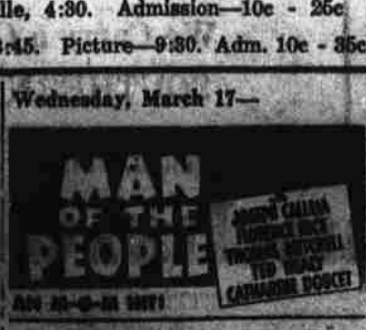
Night Picture—7:15. Vaudeville—8:45. Picture—9:30. Adm. 10c - 35c

Tuesday, March 16—



News — Cartoon

Wednesday, March 17—



Travelogue and Cartoon **BANK NIGHT**

### Jack Oakie's College Gets "No Study" Plan



YOU can tell from the picture that Jack Oakie, radio and screen comedian, has just thought of a new way to increase enrollment at his mythical Oakie Doakie College.

"What we need is a new 'no study' plan," he says. And Miss Penny, his secretary, thinks that's just too, too wonderful.

Oakie and his college are featured on Tuesday evening broadcasts over Columbia's coast-to-coast network. Benny Goodman's swing band, guest stars and best of real undergraduate musical talent selected from colleges and universities throughout the country are also contributing to the success of this sensational air show.

## BUY WHERE MILLIONS ARE BUYING

1934 1,160,231 bought Used Cars from Chevrolet Dealers

1935 1,425,209 bought Used Cars from Chevrolet Dealers

1936 2,019,839 bought Used Cars from Chevrolet Dealers

Buy where you'll save money

Buy Guaranteed OK Values

Buy from your

**CHEVROLET DEALER**

- BUY YOUR USED CAR FROM YOUR CHEVROLET DEALER FOR THESE REASONS**
- 1 Your Chevrolet dealer has the finest selection of used cars in his entire history. All makes—all models.
  - 2 Big volume enables your Chevrolet dealer to give you bigger value . . . at lower prices.
  - 3 Chevrolet dealers employ the highest standards and the most expertly trained mechanics for efficiently reconditioning used cars.
  - 4 Only Chevrolet dealers can offer used cars backed by the famous Guaranteed OK Tag—for eleven years the nationally recognized symbol of SAFE USED CAR INVESTMENT.



USED CARS OF THE MOST OUTSTANDING QUALITY AND VALUE . . . ALL MAKES, ALL MODELS, INCLUDING MANY 1935-1936 CHEVROLETS . . . UNUSUALLY LOW PRICES!

1929 Model A Ford Coach to the First Lucky Buyer . . . **\$75**

1936 DeLuxe Chevrolet Sedan

1935 V-8 Ford Truck

Grasp this opportunity to enjoy Chevrolet's famous beauty, performance and economy at this low price. In A-1 condition—

Complete new motor (not rebuilt), new tires, good paint, with 1937 license plates. Hurry for this one. Special sale price—

**\$550**

**\$295**

Many Other Bargains Not Listed COME IN . . . SEE THEM . . . TODAY!

## Hollowell Chevrolet Co.

HERTFORD, N. C.