

3,000,000 Pounds Food Given To School Children

More than three million pounds of surplus commodities were distributed through school lunch rooms to needy children in North Carolina during the period beginning last July 1 and extending through March 31 of this year, A. E. Langston, State director of commodity distribution announced this week.

Surplus commodities, including fruits, cereals, greens, milk butter

and vegetables were distributed to 821 certified schools. A total of 72,699 students in these schools were certified to receive all of the commodities listed. However, 1,182 schools and 68,894 students were certified for receiving fruits only.

The estimated value of all surplus commodities distributed in the state over the nine month period was \$180,841. It was also estimated that 1,018,144 pounds of surplus commodities worth approximately \$60,080, would be distributed during April and May. That would bring the total for the school year, Langston said, to 4,200,000 pounds, worth approximately \$240,921.

A total of 2,009 schools and 141,538 students have been certified for the receipt of one or more articles, he said. Last summer the FSCC set North Carolina's quota at 150,000 students for the school year, less than 10,000 above the number certified through March 31.

Figures for 1938-39 showed 843 schools and 48,890 students certified, and figures for the 1937-38 term listed only 359 schools and 35,018 students certified he said.

Commodities distributed so far this year were given as: fruits, 2,104,760 pounds, estimated value \$82,768; cereals and greens, 828,704 pounds, estimated value \$41,086; milk and butter, 150,951 pounds, estimated value \$53,559; and vegetables, 97,441 pounds, estimated value \$3,426.

Beaufort County farmers are making an active study of means of harvesting potatoes with the smallest amount of damage in the handling process, says Assistant Farm Agent A. L. Eagles.

Farm Questions Answered

Q.—How soon after birth is it safe to feed grain and hay to dairy calves?

A.—Small amounts of both grain and hay should be offered the calf at two weeks of age or when the substitution of skim-milk for whole milk begin. At first the calf will eat only a small handful of grain daily, but this amount can be gradually increased until the animal is receiving around three pounds a day at six months of age. Hay feeding should begin at the same time and fed sparingly at first with a gradual increase as the calf becomes used to it.

Q.—What is the proper planting distance for sweet potato plants?

A.—The plants should be spaced 12 inches apart in rows from three to three and one-half feet apart. Close planting reduces the number of 'Jumbos' and also reduces the losses from stem rot. Where the crop is to be harvested for the early market the planting should be at least 18 inches in rows three feet apart. Planting on a high ridge is recommended and better stands are secured on freshly made ridges unless the plants are watered.

REJOICE!

There should be no need for quaking Nor for chronic belly-aching in this grand land of the free. None can "blitzkrieg" you or me. We can dance and sing and shout. We never hear the dire "blackout". Nor need we deal with trepidation. The radio—to our favorite station. Our news is still free of the censor. We have no ration card dispenser. We go to the church of our choice. And in our government have voice. So let's be happy, carefree, gay. Give thanks to God each night we pray Because He chose for you and me Birth in this land of liberty. —Charls Evens Perry.

Duplin County farmers doing a good job of grading and packing their strawberries are the ones receiving top prices, reports L. F. Weeks, assistant farm agent of the State College Extension Service.

Demonstration farmers of Madison County are taking the lead in an active campaign to place better cattle in the county, says John S. Hollamon, assistant farm agent.

Bankruptcies among farmers of the United States touched the lowest point last year in almost two decades, dropping 21 percent under the total for the preceding year.

Farmers' cash income for the first quarter of 1940 was 12 percent higher than a year ago, reports the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Soil Conservation Districts now cover 136 million acres in the U. S., including 10 million acres in North Carolina.

The United States Senate recently passed a bill prohibiting the exportation of tobacco seed from the United States except for experimental purposes.

Tuberculosis is largely a "poor man's" disease.



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