

It's An Ill Wind--

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The condition of farmers in the regions suffering from the 1934 drought is deplorable, but their misfortune, regrettable though it may be, spells opportunity for those farmers of the South who have adopted a well balanced cropping program.

The general summary of drought conditions following is authoritative:

Drought damage to crops and pastures up to August 15th has been far greater than anticipated earlier in the season and exceeds the damage in any previous drought year of record. Never before in this country has severe drought extended over so extensive an area and affected so large a proportion of the farmers. Yet, food supplies for the nation as a whole are ample. Stocks of bread grains and of several other food products are large. Production of most canning crops will be about normal, fruits and vegetables fairly abundant outside of the drought area, and the supply of meat, dairy and poultry products adequate for the remainder of this year. But local supplies of certain food crops will be decidedly short in many areas, requiring more than usual shipments from other localities.

The main drought damage this year is in the shortage of feed, forage and pasture, necessitating heavy reduction of livestock numbers and reduced rations for the remaining animals. This in turn will cause sharp reduction in market supplies of meat and other livestock products in 1935, even if the growing season next year should be normal.

The drought of 1934 has been widespread throughout the Northern Hemisphere, materially reducing the production of grain and causing serious food shortage especially in central and southeastern Europe, including Germany, Poland and the Danubian countries. There was also a severe spring drought in the southern wheat export regions of Russia, Canada, especially the prairie provinces; northern Mexico, and China, particularly the Yangtze Valley, have suffered drought damage. Even portions of the Southern Hemisphere have felt the drought, resulting in some reduction in wheat seedings, particularly in Australia.

Crop Prospects In U. S. August 1
Crop prospects declined nearly 11 per cent during July because of unfavorable growing conditions, practically everywhere except along the Atlantic coast in the eastern cotton belt and in the Pacific northwest.

The most serious loss was a decline of about 24 per cent, or 500,000,000 bushels, in corn prospects during this period and practically a total failure of the crop, so far as grain is concerned, in an area including the major parts of Nebraska, Kansas, Missouri and South Dakota and in parts of Southern Iowa and West Central Illinois. In Texas, Oklahoma and Arkansas, only the early planted corn produced grain. Yield prospects were sharply reduced in the remainder of the corn belt. Even the production of corn fodder was seriously reduced in the drought area.

Small grain crops, with the exception of spring wheat, are mostly harvested, and yields are about the same as indicated on July 1st. The first report on grain sorghum production, based on condition as of August 1, indicated a crop of less than 60 per cent of average.

Prospective production of hay also declined by about 7 per cent during the month. The condition of pastures continued to decline and, over wide areas, were furnishing little or no feed on August 1.

Present prospects for corn and grain sorghum production are even lower than those on August 1st, the dry hot weather during the first ten days of the month having done more damage than could be offset by the recent rains. In Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma, Texas, most of Nebraska, southern Iowa, and West Central Illinois, the corn crop was in such a condition on August 1st, that subsequent rains could bring no improvement so far as grain production is concerned. Some increase in forage production will result where rains have occurred, although in the worst areas the plants were already dead. East of this area the recent rains have been sufficient to halt deterioration at least temporarily but will probably not offset the damage done during the first ten days of the month.

In most of the area dependent upon grain sorghum production for grain and forage supplies, no improvement in weather conditions has yet occurred and prospects for this crop continue to decline. From the Northern Great Plains, eastward, the recent rains are believed to have been sufficient to revive pastures and meadows to some extent.

Judging from the present prospects, there will be available for livestock feed this year only about 65 per cent of the usual quantity of corn, sorghum, and only about 68 per cent of the usual quantity of hay. Because of the short pastures a considerable amount of the 1934 production of hay has already been consumed. Probably not more than half of the usual straw has been stacked and corn and sorghum fodder and stover will be exceptionally light. For these reasons a rather drastic adjustment in the number of livestock will have to be made before fall and winter feeding begins.

To reduce livestock units in some of the worst drought states to a point where feed supplies per animal unit would be equal to the 5-year average would require a reduction of from 50 to 75 per cent. But in no state is it to be expected that any such reduction will be made. For the country as a whole, it is probable that slaughter of cattle, calves and sheep, including that of the animals bought for emergency slaughter, during the six months, July to December, will greatly exceed that of any other similar period on record.

Under present feed conditions the finishing of cattle and lambs on grain for market will be greatly curtailed and hogs will be marketed at light weights. There will be a relatively heavy movement of feed into the worst areas and everything that can be utilized for feed will be salvaged.

The unusual scarcity of hay, forage crops and feed grains will necessitate more extensive adjustments in livestock management, covering a wider area than have ever been made within the memory of most of those who are now farming. These revised adjustments will be the same as those usually made in areas affected by drought but they will be carried much farther than usual. They will comprise primarily a reduction in numbers of livestock, less intensive feeding of the animals retained, closer utilization of all feed supplies, unusual efforts to increase production of forage and pasture crops whenever the weather will permit, and decreases in exports and increases in imports of food stuffs.

Timely Questions On Farm Answered

Question: Where can a grower secure the 12-cent loan on cotton authorized by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation?

Answer: Any bank, cooperative marketing association, partnership, corporation, or person is authorized to lend money to producers on eligible cotton warehouse receipts. Certain forms, which can be obtained from the county agent, must be completed and submitted with application for loan. All cotton must be classed as low middling or better in grade and must be tax-exempt or have had taxes paid on it before application is filed.

Question: Are table scraps good for chickens?

Answer: Table scraps are usually an extremely concentrated, highly seasoned food and often produce dire results if the birds are allowed to gorge themselves. Where only a few birds are kept and fed only a grain ration the scraps undoubtedly supply some of the deficiencies brought about by such a feeding method. This system of feeding, however, does not bring out the best in the birds and causes low vitality as well as a decreased production. For best results all birds should have the proper ration and be well housed.

Question: What grasses are recommended for permanent pastures in North Carolina?

Answer: The grass mixtures vary with the type of soil and location. The grasses that would do well in the coastal plain section on loamy soils would be unsuited to other soil conditions in the piedmont section. A full list of the recommended mixtures for different sections is given in Extension Circular No. 202, copies of which may be obtained free from the Agricultural Editor at State College.

JONES GREATEST 1933 HERO

Of nearly 500 cases of special bravery reported to the Royal Humane Society of Great Britain, that of H. E. B. Jones, of Sussex, England, has been declared to be the greatest. Jones will receive a gold medal from the society. When the steamship Antung was stranded in rough weather on Hainan Island, off the Chinese Coast, Captain Ashby abandoned the ship and placed his wife, their child and native passengers in a small boat. The boat capsized in the rough sea. Jones sled down a rope, swam to the woman and took her to the ship's side. While the panic-stricken natives fought for the rope he tied Mrs. Ashby and had her pulled aboard. Jones then helped save several floundering Chinamen. Sergeant Sherevera, who rescued the child will get a bronze medal. Seventy were lost in the wreck.

MRS. JESSE WIGGINS IMPROVING FOLLOWING RECENT OPERATION

Mrs. Jesse Wiggins returned Friday night from Durham, where she spent several days at Duke Hospital, undergoing treatment. Mrs. Wiggins is reported to be progressing rapidly following a recent operation.

MANY FARM IMPROVEMENTS ARE POSSIBLE WITH LOANS NOW MADE AVAILABLE UNDER FHA PROGRAM

Timely repairs and improvements are essential to the modern farm. They enhance its efficiency, improve its appearance and increase its market value.

There are many improvements that can be made this winter when other farm work is not pressing, and which may be paid for, if cash is lacking, with the aid of the new seasonal payment loan system created by the Federal Housing Administration. If farm property is checked now many dollars in costly repairs may be saved later on. Here is a list of suggestions:

ALL FARM BUILDINGS: Repair. Provide new floors of concrete or other durable and sanitary materials. Provide new stalls or rearrange for convenience and livestock health. Build masonry foundations or repair old ones. Cut additional windows. Replace or patch roofs and siding. Enlarge over crowded buildings. Provide efficient corn crib, potato house and other storage buildings. Repair or rebuild silos and silage carts. Replace inadequate doors. Insulate stock buildings and install ventilating systems. Build ice house, smoke house, summer kitchen. Pave barn approaches and ramps. Provide complete granary system. Provide modern housing for poultry, hogs, sheep, etc. Erect orchard sheds. Replace or repair hay sheds and buildings and

roadside markets.

LAND: Construct durable fences. Make watertight tanks and troughs. Build manure pits. Pave feed lot floor. Build sales pavilions and county or local fair buildings. Provide adequate pens. Build new beehives. Build sheep shearing pens. Construct new curbs and platforms of masonry for pumps and springs. Build windmill, or repair with new platform, etc. Lay dry, serviceable walks of masonry or wood. Replace old septic tank for health's sake. Build pasture shelter. Build necessary bridges, culverts, dams and spillways. Provide irrigation canals and gates. Replace fruit and vegetable wash racks. Replace grapevine posts and build grape arbors.

EQUIPMENT: Repair old or build new milk houses and cooling tanks. Install butter-making plant. Erect milk loading platform. Install calf mangers and stanchions. Modernize all present equipment. Build sufficient sheds or repair existing ones. Provide an electricity plant and running water equipment if lacking.

COMMERCIAL EQUIPMENT: Build roadside markets for direct sale of fruits and vegetables, dairy and poultry products. Build tourist cabins. Repair and paint existing tourist cabins. Build camp showers and modernize toilets. Provide camp tables and shades.

Plant Gardens Now For Winter Usage

Fall gardens will supply the family with fresh vegetables until late in the winter.

Most of the summer crops are now gone, but the supply of vegetables can be kept up by planting fall crops in September and October, says Robert Schmidt, associate horticulturist at the N. C. experiment station.

Fall vegetables, for the most part, belong to the leafy group and require rich soil or heavy fertilization to promote rapid growth. The crops should be those which can withstand the early frosts.

Snap beans will mature in about 50 days and may still be planted, Schmidt said. However, magnesium arsenate spray or dust should be used to control the Mexican bean beetle.

It is a little late for beets, but if planted in early September they will mature if the season is good. Carrots may still be planted in good soil. Cabbage, turnips, kale, mustard, broccoli, tendergreen, Chinese cabbage, collards, lettuce, spinach and radish make good fall crops.

In the mountain sections fall gardens should be planted earlier than in the Piedmont and coastal plain areas. But September is not too late for planting in protected sites in the mountain areas where the soil is rich or plenty of good fertilizer is used to stimulate rapid growth.

The fertilizers should contain large quantities of quickly available nitrogen. The soil should be well prepared before planting. Sufficient cultivation to control grass and weeds is also necessary.

Insects do their damage in the fall as well as in the summer and steps to keep them under control are important to the production of high grade vegetables. Recommendations for spraying may be obtained from the county agent.

R. H. W. BUNCH OUT AGAIN AFTER PARALYTIC STROKE

*R. H. W. Bunch is able to be out again after having been confined to his home on West Eden street for several weeks with paralysis. Mr. Bunch's many friends will be glad to learn of his improved condition.

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RYLAND

Miss Evelyn Jordan spent Thursday afternoon with Mrs. T. L. Ward. Miss Grace Hollowell, Miss Evelyn Jordan and Mrs. A. S. Bush of Cross Roads attended the Baptist Association meeting in Elizabeth City Tuesday.

O. C. Ward, who has been on the sick list, is improving. Miss Grace Hollowell and Miss Evelyn Jordan went to Whiteston Monday afternoon.

Tom Dilday was in Edenton Saturday afternoon.

Mrs. Harriett Parks attended the Baptist Association meeting in Elizabeth City last Tuesday and Wednesday.

Mrs. Roy Parks is visiting in Chester, Pa., Richmond, Va., and Washington, D. C.

Guests at the home of Mrs. Tom Davis Friday included Mrs. Harriett Parks, Miss Mary Lee Davis, Mrs. G. A. Boyce and two children, Mrs. R. S. Ward and children of the community; Mrs. John Bright and little son, John Robert, of Small's Cross Roads; Mrs. John Parks, of Suffolk, Va., and Mrs. Julian Ward, of Edenton.

Wardie Henniger was in Edenton Saturday afternoon.

Mr. Roy Parks had as his guest at dinner Friday the preacher from the Piney Woods church.

Mrs. John Parks, of Suffolk, Va., Mrs. John Bright and little son, of Cross Roads and Mrs. Harriett

Parks visited Mrs. C. W. Ward Friday afternoon.

Miss Grace Hollowell and Miss Evelyn Jordan visited in Aulander Saturday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Ward and sons were in Edenton Saturday afternoon. Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Ward and children were in Edenton Saturday afternoon.

Burfoot Ward and daughters, of South Norfolk, Va., were guests of his mother, Mrs. Penina Ward, over the week-end.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe White and son, Robert, of Gliden, Mr. and Mrs. Vance Moore and son, Grady, visited their parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Ward, Sunday afternoon.

ASHEVILLE SESSION TO CLOSE STATE RED CROSS MEETINGS

Washington, D. C., Sept. 27.—All phases of Red Cross work in North Carolina will be discussed at the closing conference of a series of three held in the state this month. The final conference will open at Battery Park Hotel, Asheville, at 10 o'clock on Friday, September 28. The other conferences were held at Tarboro on Tuesday and Pinehurst on Wednesday.

The national speaker at the Asheville conference will be Richard F. Allen, manager of the eastern area of the Red Cross, whose subject is "Today's Challenge to the Red Cross." A Junior Red Cross council meeting will be conducted under the direction of the Buncombe County Juniors.

Cotton Farmers

Bale Cotton ginned with us at Edenton or Center Hill will be stored FREE until December 1st. All Cotton when it enters our gins or warehouses is fully covered by Insurance. Rate of storage after December 1st will be 25c per month per bale.

We buy Seed Cotton and Cotton Seed. Rate of ginning is 1c per pound lint, \$4.50 minimum.

We can offer Cotton Seed Meal or Nitrate of Soda even exchange for Cotton Seed. (This offer subject to change without notice.)

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