

Time At Hand To Combat Blue Mold In Tobacco Beds

County Agent C. W. Overman Releases Timely Advice

"Now is the time to begin if tobacco growers expect to control the blue mold disease in plant beds this season," says County Agent C. W. Overman.

Blue mold takes a heavy toll of tobacco plants every year in Chowan County. Last year there was a serious shortage of plants making it necessary for many growers to bring in plants from other counties. Bringing plants from counties is dangerous, as disease may be brought in and be implanted in the soil.

Blue mold can be controlled. The control is preventive and not a cure. Therefore, it is most important to begin spraying or dusting plant beds when plants are size of a dime. Beds should be treated every 3 to 4 days until the plants are set in the field. Thorough treatment twice each week keeps a covering of the fungicide on the plants so that as the disease is blown in it is killed before the spores take effect on the leaves. Fermate is the fungicide generally used in this County. For spraying, about 2 pounds of Fermate will be sufficient for 100 square yards of plant bed for the season. Fermate should be mixed at the rate of 1 pound to 25 gallons of water or 5 level tablespoonfuls per gallon of water. To mix, place the Fermate in a jar, pour in about twice as much water as you have Fermate, screw on the top and shake well until thoroughly mixed, then pour this into the correct amount of water.

For spraying the first 4 applications will require about 3 to 3½ gallons per 100 square yards. This may be sprayed through the cover on the bed. The fifth and sixth applications will take about gallons per 100 square yards. The seventh and other applications will require 5 to 6 gallons per 100 square yards. "If some blue mold should appear in sprayed beds don't give up," says Mr. Overman, but continue to use the 5 to 6 gallon rate regardless of plant size."

For dusting the beds instead of spraying use a 15% Fermate dust. It will require about 25 pounds of dust per 100 square yards of bed for the

season. The first 4 applications of dust will require 1 to 1½ pounds of dust per 100 square yards; 5th and 6th applications will require 2 to 2½ pounds per 100 square yards, and other applications 3 to 3½ pounds per 100 square yards. Dust should be applied early in the morning while the dew is on and the air is quiet.

"It is most important to do a thorough job with each application," Mr. Overman advises. "In spraying use as much pressure as possible and a nozzle that will give a fine mist, permitting thorough and even coverage. When dust is applied you should be able to see the coating of dust on the leaves. Growers who start in time and do a good job of controlling blue mold should have no loss of plants from the disease."

About 50 Attend Tractor School

Practices Pointed Out For More Efficient Operation

Approximately 50 farm boys and farmers attended the two farm tractor or care and maintenance schools held last week. One of these was held at the Agricultural Building of Chowan High School and the other at S. John's Negro school at Yeopim. These were so arranged to permit vocational agricultural students, older 4-H Club members and farmers to attend. J. C. Ferguson, Extension Agricultural Engineer, conducted the discussion and demonstrations. Mr. Ferguson pointed out the vital parts of the farm tractor, explaining the necessity for proper care and maintenance and how it may be accomplished.

Different make tractors used on the farms in each community were available so that the information could be given on each different make. Those attending indicated considerable interest and many questions were asked and answered concerning their problems with farm tractors. Mr. Ferguson clearly pointed out practices to be followed to make the farm tractor operate most efficiently, last as long as possible and save the farm time and money.

Big Increase Noted In Auto Licenses

Approximately 915,000 motor vehicle licenses have been issued by the

Department of Motor Vehicles since December 1, the Department has reported.

The figure represented nearly a 818,000 had been issued.

Motor Vehicle officials expect registration to exceed the million mark by the end of June if the present trend continues. Figures did not pass the million mark in 1949 until the latter part of October. The all-time high figure of 1,030,000 set last year is expected to be broken by that time.

Mrs. Horace C. White Elected Representative Of Pocahontas Council

At Friday night's meeting of Chowanoke Council, No. 54, Degree of Pocahontas, Mrs. Horace White was elected to represent the Council at the Great Council meeting which will be held at Carolina Beach June 12 and 13. Mrs. E. J. Pruden of Merry

Hill was elected as alternate.

With the local Council in existence only several months, this will be the first time Edenton will be represented by the women's branch of the Improved Order of Red Men at the Great Council meeting.

Tobacco Leaders Seek No Allotment Change

Tobacco leaders of the flue-cured area agreed at a meeting in Raleigh, March 11, that no change should be

sought in the 1950 allotments.

At the meeting, presided over by J. Henry Vaughan, Elm City, N. C., chairman of Tobacco Associates' Board of Directors, the flue-cured tobacco situation was reviewed in detail.

"It was developed in the meeting that the report demand for cigarette grades appears to have strengthened since the 1950 quota and allotments were reviewed last December," the leaders said in a statement after the session.

"There were differences in opinion

as to the extent to which current and prospective supplies would satisfy the export demand for cigarette grades.

"However, it was generally agreed at the meeting that no effort should be made to change the 1950 allotments. Planting has already begun in the Southern part of the belt and the uncertainty of trying to bring about any change would cause considerable confusion among growers."

The Cherokees of North Carolina do not know what the name of their tribe means. They call themselves "Ani-Yunwiwa" or "real people."



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