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North Carolina's 1952 Cash Farm Income Was 18 Million Dollars Less Than In 1951

News Letter, total cash farm income for the nation in 1952 was \$33,125,-399,000, the largest total amount for any one year in our history. It was million, in round numbers. around a half billion dollars in excess of the 1951 total, whereas in North Carolina, the 1952 cash farm income was some 18 million dollars less in livestock products.

The states range in cash income per farm from the fantastic and unbelievable amount of \$39,932 in Arizona to \$1,649 in West Virginia. In the case of Arizona, the per farm income from crops was \$28,552 and from livestock \$11,380.

North Carolina had a total cash farm income of \$929,948,000. This was second only to the 1951 income which, as finally revised, was \$947,296,000. The 1952 figure is subject to slight revision. When this total is divided by the number of farms we get an average cash income per form of \$3,223. This is slightly under the 1951 income per farm by some \$60.00. This is not bad in view of the preliminary report that there was a drop of some seventy million dollars in income from tobacco last year, due to smaller production and lower prices.

North Carolina ranks 42nd in cash farm income per farm. Our rank in 1951 was fortieth. Again the drop in rank is due to the slightly off-year in tobacco. There has been very littrends. The annual changes in rank are due to local weather conditions and flucuations in production, and price of individual commodities such as tobacco, year by year.

The per farm cash income in North Carolina has ranged during the last few years, from \$2,449 in 1949 to the revised figure of approximately \$3,-290 in 1951.

North Carolina's cash farm income from crops in 1952 averaged \$2,518 into production. per farm. This compares with a national average of \$2,718 per farm. North Carolina's cash income from the sale of livestock and livestock products averaged \$706 per farm as compared with the national average of \$3,437. The per farm income from livestock in 1952 was lower in only Mississippi and South Carolina. In percent of cash farm income derived from the sale of livestock and livestock products, North Carolina has moved out of last position by a very small fraction. South Carolina now enjoys that distinction. In North Carolina 21.89 per cent of cash farm income was from livestock, while in South Carolina it was 21.41 per cent. The slight gain in percent of income from livestock in North Carolina was due in part to an actual increase o eight million dollars from livestock. It was more due to the decrease of some seventy million dollars in income from tobacco. In other words, had the tobacco income not dropped, North Carolina would have ranked at the bottom in percent of farm income

According to statistics furnished by from livestock and livestock products the University of North Carolina The total income from livestock in The total income from livestock in North Carolina moved up from \$195,-458,000 in 1951 to \$203,557,000 in 1952.

If the percent of farm income de rived from the sale of livestock and livestock products is a measure of a balanced agriculture, then North Car-1952 than in 1951. This means that the decline of some seventy million agricultural state. We will miss by agricultural state. We will miss by dollars in income from tobacco in North Carolina was largely offset by increased income from other crops, along with an eight million dollar increase inincome from livestock and livestock when the increase is largely due to a decline in income from tobacco rather than to much increase in income from livestock. In bringing

about a better balance in agriculture in North Carolina, it is to be hoped that it will not be achieved by a decline in tobacco. North Carolina is quite fortunate in the position it occupies as a tobacco producing state and it is to be hoped that 1953 will be an improvement over 1952. Also it is to be hoped that North Carolina will make fuller use of its excellent livestock resources. Too little of our land is in production and too much of our unsurpassed agricultural labor supply is seasonally underemployed. Underemployment is due to the highly seasonal nature of our leading crops which leaves producers of these crops with little or nothing to do after the crops have been sold. Underemployment of land resources and underemployment of farm population can probably best be cured or remedied by

expansion of livestock production. Much of this underemployment in agriculture is ameliorated in some parts the change in the rank of North Caro-lina in farm income per farm for quite a number of years. Our for-tunes rise and fall with the national of farm families would find the going rough were it not for employment opportunities. However, there are large areas in the state where there is underemployment in agriculture and an absence of nonagricultural employment opportunities. The one crop regions are the ones shortest on nonagricultural employment. These regions are also shortest on livestock and probably have the largest amounts of idle or semi-idle land that can readily be put

> Knowledge is not knowledge until Alexander: someone else knows that one knows.

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