



©1951 National Wildlife Federation
Spotted Skunk

Spotted Skunks, like their striped cousins, have an unpleasant way of defending themselves against attackers. But so long as they are not aroused, the spotted fellows probably do more good than harm. The National Wildlife Federation reports that they perform a valuable service by eating such destructive pests as grasshoppers, crickets, beetles, mice and rats.

To catch his prey, the Spotted Skunk prowls only at night. A sure-footed hunter, he is quick to pounce on his victims, and he can go after them either on the ground or in trees.

After a night of roaming, he curls up and rests during the daylight hours. His home may be in almost any sheltered nook. Spotted Skunks have been found living in the clefts of rocky ledges, in hollow stumps or logs, in holes which they have dug in banks, in old dens abandoned by other animals, and in natural caves.

In the out-of-the-way places which they have chosen for their homes, they raise their families. Each spring there is a litter of from two to ten young, which are cared for by the mother.

When the young grow up, they are from eighteen to twenty-two inches long, and their bushy tails are seven or eight inches in length. Their heads are small, their ears tiny, and their legs short. Altogether they are smaller than their striped cousins.

The real identification mark of the Spotted Skunk, of course, is the way in which his glossy black coat is decorated with white. He has a white spot on his forehead and oblong white marks, or broken stripes, on his back and upper sides. His tail, too, may be mostly white. All of his hair—white and black—is long.

Besides insects, rats, and mice, he eats small ground squirrels, small birds and their eggs, lizards, salamanders, crawfish, mushrooms, and small fruits. There is no proof that he takes enough birds or fruit to be a serious menace.

The only crime of which he is accused is carrying hydrophobia, and in some parts of the country he is known and feared as the Hydrophobia Skunk. But the truth is that experts disagree on whether he really deserves this name and reputation. While he may carry rabies, it is likely that the chances of being bitten by a mad Spotted Skunk are less than the chances of being attacked by a mad dog.

Whether you want to see or avoid Spotted Skunks, you may find it useful to know that there are about thirteen varieties of them. According to the National Wildlife Federation, they

OUR DEMOCRACY—by Mat
ALL IN A LIFETIME



NOT TOO LONG AGO, WE MARVELLED AT THE DARING OF THE MEN WHO RISKED LIFE AND LIMBS, PERCHED ON THE SADDLE OF A "HIGH WHEELER." HERE WAS CONVINCING PROOF OF MAN'S MASTERY OF THE MACHINE.



TODAY, WE MARVEL AT THE DARING OF AMERICAN YOUTH FLYING JET AIRPLANES MILES ABOVE THE GROUND AT SPEEDS EXCEEDING THAT OF SOUND. —SO HAVE MACHINES AND MAN'S MASTERY OF THEM PROGRESSED—ALL IN A LIFETIME.

Price Support Loans Depend On Storage

Chowan County small grain producers who intend to take advantage of government price support loans on this year's harvest should be giving serious consideration to the problem of obtaining the necessary storage space.

C. W. Overman, Chowan County farm agent for the State College Extension Service, reminds farmers that it is their responsibility to provide storage, either on the farm or in commercial space, before they can obtain government loans. And even though they do not plan to apply for a loan, inability to find space at the last

moment can lead to the necessity for dumping crops on the market at harvest time when prices are often as much as 70 cents below their normal levels for later in the year.

The question of storage space is particularly important this year, says Overman, because national carryovers from last year plus this year's production are expected to result in the greatest total supply of grain and oilseeds we have ever had. This will undoubtedly strain all existing storage facilities, despite the fact that the government has taken steps to expand space through use of the "Mothball fleet" to hold stocks owned by the Commodity Credit Corporation and building of 100,000,000 bushels additional CCC bin space, as well as through an occupancy guarantee program to encourage building of additional commercial elevators. Current estimates indicate that there may be a shortage of storage space amounting to 150 to 250 million bushels.

The answer for many farmers is to provide space on their own farms sufficient to house their own crops. Information about the type of facilities which would best meet their needs can be obtained from the county agent. Information about special loans available to finance new facilities or remodel existing buildings can be obtained from the county ASC Committee.

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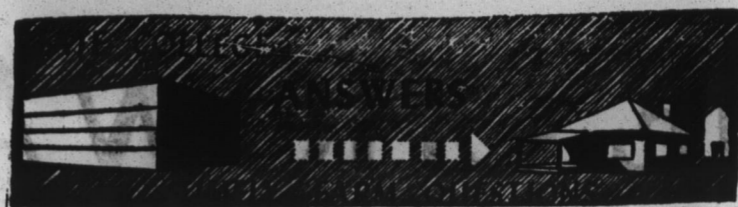
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Question: Does grain sorghum do well in a drought?

Answer: It has an inherent ability to withstand drought. The plants become almost dormant during periods when water is scarce and start growing again when supplied with water. This one feature has allowed the grain sorghums to compete favorably with other summer crops during dry weather. The sorghums may be used as a catch crop following failure of early seeded crops. The grain is generally compared with corn in feeding qualities. It is expected that in a few years North Carolina farmers will plant nearly 100,000 acres annually.

Question: Just what does the term pH mean?

Answer: This term is used to express the degree of acidity of soils. An arbitrary scale was established running from 0 to 14. A pH of 7.0 is neutral—soils with a pH of 7.0 are

neither acid nor alkaline. Soils with a pH below 7.0 are acid; those with a pH above 7.0 are non-acid, or alkaline. Thus a soil with a pH of 6.9 is only very slightly acid and one with a pH of 7.1 is very slightly alkaline. Also a soil with a pH of 6.4 is more acid than a soil with a pH of 6.8. The same is true on the alkaline side of the scale. A soil with a pH of 7.8 is more alkaline than one with a pH of 7.4.

Question: How can I tell just how much 2, 4-D is in the can I buy?

Answer: It is on the label and is usually referred to as "pounds of 2, 4-D acid equivalent." Certain necessary materials must be added to the pure 2, 4-D to increase its range of

uses. Some of these materials allow it to be used in water and others increase its ability to "wet" and stick to surfaces. The actual amount of 2, 4-D in the can is indicated by such a phrase as this: "This product contains the equivalent of 4 pounds of 2, 4-D acid per gallon."

Chowan High Menu

Menus at Chowan High School for the week of May 24 are as follows:

Monday—Luncheon meat, pimento cheese, green butter beans, mashed potatoes, carrots and cabbage salad, bread, butter and fruit cup.

Tuesday—Stew beef, green tossed salad, green peas, beets, corn muffins, butter, peaches.

Wednesday—Franks, cheese toast, potato salad, pork and beans, cole slaw, bread, butter, chocolate honey cake.

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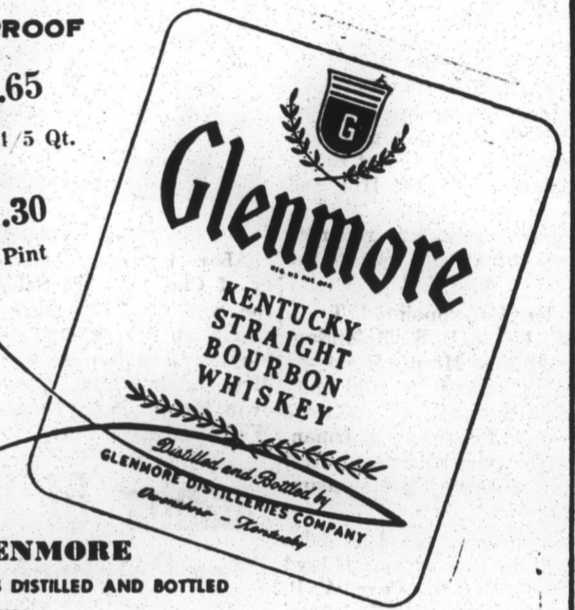
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