

# SOIL CONSERVATION NEWS

By JAMES H. GRIFFIN, Soil Conservationist

Do you need grazing for your cattle in mid-summer? Who doesn't if they have a herd of cattle to feed and no summer pasture.

Marvin Evans of Edenton had heard a lot about Coastal Bermuda grass but had not tried it until two years ago. He decided to try one acre for his ponies. He selected the poorest land he had for it. Mr. Evans said he had never seen grass grow in this deep sand (Lakeland Loamy fine sand). The first year, he grazed his ponies and mowed hay for the winter.

Fahey and Carroll Byrum of Edenton are planning to establish three acres of Coastal Bermuda grass pasture this spring on their Churchill Farm. This will be used for grazing and as a source of supply for future plantings. Their Conservation Farm Plan includes 10 acres more to be established in 1962. The plan includes 20 acres of fescue ladino-clover to be seeded in the fall of 1960 and 1961.

R. C. Ward, Ryland has six acres of Coastal Bermuda grass pasture planned in his conservation farm plan with the Albemarle Soil Conservation District. Mr. Ward has tried ladino-clover fescue seedings several times and each time failed. The soils are deep sands (Lakeland sand and Klej sands). In preparing his conservation farm plan, land capability was explained. Immediately, he realized that he had been using this six acres within its capability. He planned a Coastal Bermuda grass pasture in his plan.

Coastal Bermuda grass makes a good sod for a grass waterway. Jimmie Parrish of Edenton has planned in his conservation farm plan with the district grass waterways using Coastal Bermuda grass. George Lewis, farm consultant with the Peoples Bank & Trust Company, has planned to use it for a grass waterway on the E. L. Ward estate at Edenton.

W. A. Twine of Tyner has planned to use Coastal Bermuda grass for a grassed waterway on his farm. He has conservation farm plan No. 96 with the Albemarle Soil Conservation District. He constructed an open ditch in December, 1959, which was almost destroyed because of surface water. A grassed waterway, using the grass, will be established on March 23. This will protect the open ditch and remove the surface

water. Coastal Bermuda grass stolons or sprigs will be for sale on March 23 and March 30 at the Frank Wilson Farm at Tarboro. If either of these days are rainy riggings will be made on April 6th. Cost of these stolons will be about \$7 per acre F.O.B. at Tarboro. A pickup truck will bring back enough plants for 3 to 5 acres.

The best way to establish a stand of Coastal Bermuda grass is to apply lime as indicated by soil test, usually about one ton per acre, work this into the plow layer. Apply 500-800 pounds of 0-14-14 or 0-10-20 in rows at the time of planting. Apply 40-50 pounds of Nitrogen per acre directly on plants as soon as growth starts. At mid-summer (July) broadcast an additional 80-100 pounds of Nitrogen per acre.

Plant in rows 3 to 4 feet apart and 2 to 3 feet in the row. This takes about 10-15 bushels per acre. Drop sprigs (roots) in a furrow and cover with disk, light plow or row cultivator. Run tractor wheel on the row after planting to firm the soil around the sprigs. Leave end of sprig above the ground in a furrow.

Another method of planting is to broadcast 50-75 bushels per acre and cover with disk or light plow. Firm soil around the sprigs with cultipacker or with other means.

Coastal Bermuda grass is suited to well-drained soils. It will make very good growth on deep sandy soils, such as Lakeland and Galestown.

Tests indicate that by using 200 lbs. of nitrogen per acre in split application, a yield can be expected of 9,000 pounds of dry matter per acre and 309 cow-days of grazing from early April through November. In T.N.D. (Total Digestible Nutrients) it will yield 4950. It will out-yield most of our present pasture plants and will furnish grazing for your cattle in mid-summer when Fescue-Ladino Clover pastures are at their lowest in grazing. Coastal Bermuda grass pasture works well with Fescue-Ladino clover pastures making a balance pasture program.

Other summer grazing crops are Sericea Lespedeza, Bahia grass, Sudan grass and millet. Sericea and bahia grass are suited to deep sandy soils but will grow better on more fertile soils. They will furnish about 138 cow-days of grazing from April

through September. Millet and Sudan grass are annual grazing crops. Yields are very good producing about 206 cow-days from May to October 15 or first frost using about 60 lbs. of Nitrogen per acre.

T. R. Harrell of Tyner used Pearl Millet last summer for grazing. He broadcast 20 lbs. per acre in his truck corn at the last cultivation. His truck corn was harvested by July 10 when he put 19 cattle in poor or thin condition on 4.5 acres. He removed the 19 cattle on September 20 in fat condition. They had gleaned his truck corn and grazed Pearl millet all this time leaving plenty of millet still in the field. Mr. Harrell had a Ladino Clover pasture nearby and left the gate open one morning to see if the cattle would graze the clover. He says that they went to the Ladino-clover but immediately left the clover and went back to grazing the Pearl Millet. This convinced him that the millet was doing the job. He says the millet fits into his farming operation. Truck corn first, summer grazing from July to October. He is a district cooperator of the Albemarle Soil Conservation District and has planned his farm. His conservation farm plan is No. 583 in Chowan County unit of the district.

## Commissioners' Proceedings

The Board of County Commissioners met Monday, March 7, 1960, at 9 o'clock A. M., with all members present, including Chairman W. E. Bond, J. R. Peele, C. J. Hollowell, J. Gilliam Wood and Dallas Jethro, Jr.

The minutes of the previous meetings were read and approved and the following bills ordered paid: District Health Dept., appropriation for February, \$983.77; Orthopedic Clinic, appropriation for January, \$15.00; H. S. Small, rent, \$25.00; Twiddy Insurance & Real Estate, Inc., rent, \$60.00; Elton Forehand Insurance Agency, rent, \$30.00; Peoples Bank & Trust Co., withholding tax department, \$658.16; Ward Hoskins, tax listing and mileage, \$120.25; W. S. Privott, attorney, 5% commission for sale of county home property, \$535.00; District Health Dept., \$29.50; Henry Bunch, tax listing, mileage and working with appraiser, \$217.21; Chowan County Board of Education, for White Oak classroom construction, \$8,244.88; T. D. Berryman, 1960 tax listing, pickups and mileage, \$154.70; James Elliott, \$5.00; N. C. Dept. of Motor Vehicles, \$1.50; Town of Edenton, E & W Dept., \$48.53; Western Gas Service, Inc., \$14.00; H. S. Small, rent, \$55.00; William Mayo, \$2.50; Carolyn C. McMullan, travel, \$46.90; Mrs. Hazel S. Elliott, travel, \$47.04; Norfolk & Carolina Tel. & Tel. Co., \$9.20; Edenton Postmaster, post-

age, \$12.00; Apex Chemical Co., \$18.00; Quinton Bass, \$3.00; Bertram Byrum, care of prisoners, \$139.31; Byrum Hardware Co., \$7.24; Pauline Calloway, telephone services and supplies, \$38.56; M. W. Coleman, Chairman Eastern North Carolina Market Hog Show and Sale, \$25.00; Onnie S. Charlton, Home Demonstration supplies, \$10.98; The Chowan Herald, \$148.06; Chowan Hospital, Inc., for indigent patients, \$821.34; Coastal Office Equipment Co., \$25.00; State of N. C. Dept. of Conservation & Development, \$99.11; Cuthrell Dept. Store, \$52.68; T. Dixon Service Station, \$16.00; Eastern N. C. Sanatorium, for indigent patients, \$82.60; Edenton Ice Co., \$184.10; Edenton Office Supply, \$5.10; M. Earl Goodwin, Sheriff, bills and services, \$479.21; Hill Mfg. Co., \$22.74; Hollowell's Rexall Drug Store, \$1.47; Hoover Bros., \$36.62; Leary Bros. Storage Co., \$2.59; Mitchener's Pharmacy, \$1.67; National Market Reports, Inc., \$43.75; Norfolk & Carolina Tel. & Tel. Co., Clerk Superior Court, \$13.10; Chowan County Tax Supervisor, \$17.85; County Accountant, \$790; U. S. Govt. Soil Conservation Service, \$6.90; Register of Deeds, \$7.80; M. Earl Goodwin, Sheriff, \$20.60; Fletcher Lassiter, Farm Agent, \$9.40; The Office Supply Store, \$6.40; C. W. Overman, telephone statement and supplies, \$23.40; Ralph E. Parrish, Inc., \$10.20; P & Q Super Market, Inc., \$5.45; Ricks Laundry & Cleaners, \$1.86; Royal McBee Corp., typewriter, \$1.86; Welfare Dep., \$193.50; Tom H. Shepard, bills and services, \$51.40; State Commission for the Blind, \$81.76; Owen G. Dunn Co., \$65.24; Edwards & Broughton, \$2.33; general salaries for February, 1960, \$4,708.58.

The following names were drawn to serve as jurors for April term of Superior Court: James Richard Morgan, George A. Ward, W. W. Perry, C. T. Griffin, John P. Bass, George Clifton Beamon, Jasper W. Hassell, Roy E. Lane, V. E. Jordan, John L. Goodwin, Jr., J. H. Ailsbrook, Fred A. White, Edgar Earl Hollowell, Thomas F. Hopkins, Ralph K. Hollowell, P. W. Nixon, William S. Morris, J. P. Martin, Thomas E. Winslow, Willie G. Joyner, A. D. Ward, John W. Collins, G. W. Lassiter, Maynard H. Chappell, John L. Nixon, Cecil C. Casper, T. C. Cross, Jr., C. F. Bovee, J. H. Jordan, C. Webb, William R. Ashley, John Washington White, Clarence Bunch, Walter O. Lane, Glenn Langley, John W. Alexander, Wilbur T. Jordan, John H. White, Samuel S. Ross, Herman F. White, Jr., Thomas W. Leary, Marvin Smith, E. H. Copeland, Earl Jones, J. J. Oliver, L. G. Layton, Frank Robert Jones, James Kermit Lavton, Thurrell C. Bunch.

On motion of J. R. Peele, seconded by C. J. Hollowell, that bonds and coupons due April 1 in the amount of \$23,779.38 be paid.

On motion of C. J. Hollowell, seconded by J. R. Peele and duly carried that State Highway Commission be requested to asphalt surface the road known as Paxton Lane, also pave with asphalt or rock and tar the dirt road that serves the people of Hobbs Acres community, a petition by the people living on these roads was presented to the Commissioners and will be forwarded to the State Highway Commission.

On motion of J. Gilliam Wood, that County Commissioners grant the Woman's Club permission to move the Confederate monument to the proposed site at end of Broad Street, providing the Town Council gives them permission to place it on the proposed site with the understanding that no county tax money be used for any part of this project. There was no second as a Board of Equalization and

On motion of J. R. Peele, seconded by Dallas Jethro, Jr., and unanimously carried that Rural Fire Stations be exempted from taxes.

On motion of J. Gilliam Wood, seconded by Dallas Jethro, Jr., and unanimously carried that the following appointments be made to serve as trustees on Pettigrew Regional Library Board: Thomas H. Shepard, term of six years; Mrs. Lina Mack, term of four years, and Mrs. Pencie S. McMullan, for a term of two years, proved by Tax Supervisor.

On motion of J. Gilliam Wood, seconded by C. J. Hollowell and unanimously carried that the Sheriff be relieved of Elusious Pierce fire tax of 99c for year 1959—error in listing, also Geo. Elliott Estate for years 1949 amount \$2.44; 1950, amount \$2.47; 1951 amount, \$2.71; 1952, ing application and to be aped by the County official mak-

to this motion.

The motion of J. R. Peele followed: On motion of J. R. Peele, seconded by C. J. Hollowell, that a referendum on moving the Confederate monument and improving the Green and site at end of Broad Street be held in May Primary. Commissioners favoring this motion were C. J. Hollowell, J. R. Peele, Dallas Jethro, Jr., with J. Gilliam Wood dissenting. The motion was duly carried.

The following reports were accepted and ordered filed: Pauline Calloway, Home Economics Agent; Catherine Aman, Assistant Home Economics Agent; C. W. Overman, County Agent; Harry Venters, Assistant County Agent; Treasurer; Chowan County Welfare Dept.; N. C. Dept. of Public Welfare; Fletcher F. Lassiter, Negro County Agent; Onnie S. Charlton, Negro Home Demonstration Agent; M. Earl Goodwin, Sheriff.

The Board of County Commissioners will meet Monday, March 4, 1960, at 9 o'clock A. M.

Review.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

W. E. BOND, Chairman  
BERTHA B. BUNCH, Clerk

Review.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

W. E. BOND, Chairman  
BERTHA B. BUNCH, Clerk

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