

## AROUND THE FARMS IN CHOWAN COUNTY

By C. W. OVERMAN, Chowan County Agent

**Low Moisture Corn:** As Chowan County farmers prepare to harvest one of the best corn crops on record, we urge them to take every step necessary to keep the quality high.

We've been criticized in the past. Buyers, and especially foreign buyers, say the quality of our corn has been dropping. They blame our quality drop on early harvesting and handling methods.

To remedy the criticism, a list of suggestions for Chowan County corn producers is presented:

First, we must delay harvesting until corn reaches a moisture level that will permit efficient operation of harvesting and drying equipment.

When corn is harvested with field-shelling equipment at moisture levels above 18 per cent, the chances of mechanical damage increase as moisture rises. USDA recommends against field shelling when moisture is above 23 to 28 per cent, whenever possible.

We predict that price advantage for early harvested corn that has existed in the past will disappear if the corn is not properly dried and handled. Elevators are unable to dry corn and maintain its natural quality as rapidly as it is harvested.

Farmers are urged to check with the County Agricultural Agents' office and elevator operators for cash price and discount schedule to determine the advantage and disadvantage of harvesting and selling corn at various moisture levels.

Discounts are placed on corn with excessive moisture to cover shrinkage and the cost of drying. Discounts are expected to be higher this year than in the past.

As another suggestion for keeping quality high, corn should be harvested only as fast as it can be dried to safe storage levels or it can be taken to the elevator for drying.

Temperatures in August and September make it impossible to keep high moisture corn for long periods of time. Corn can heat and sour when kept overnight on a truck during hot humid weather. It'll keep better on the stalk.

Farmers also are urged to "know their drier." Determine the drier's capacity. Then follow proper drying temperatures to prevent damage to the corn.

Regulate the dryer so that the temperature of the grain as it is being dried does not exceed 140 degrees. Cool grain to within 5-10 degrees of outside temperature and then aerate in storage.

Do not dry any of the kernels below 13.5 per cent regardless of the final average moisture content. Over-drying increases kernel breakage, resulting in excessive foreign material.

Corn exposed to excessive temperatures in drying is poor raw material for the processing industry. For example, in the wet milling operation, corn dried at excessive temperatures causes refining problems and a poor yield of starch. In dry milling, the kernels shatter.

As a final suggestion, farmers are urged to market high quality corn.

Don't mix dried and natural corn for average moisture content. Previously dried corn will be dried again. This will cause excessive broken kernels and foreign material. Buyers will complain.

Remember, once corn is damaged nothing can be done to restore its quality. Already, the corn from the Virginia-Carolina area is stigmatized. If we don't do something about it, the stigma will grow. Markets will become fewer. There will be no advantage for early harvested corn. Our later harvested corn will be hurt, too.

## Merry Hill News

By LOUISE B. ADAMS

Mrs. J. D. Smithwick spent from Tuesday of last week until Thursday visiting her brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. Johnnie Keeter in Edenton.

Mrs. T. E. White and Mrs. J. P. Love visited Mrs. White's sister, Mrs. Mary Castelleo, in Windsor Wednesday afternoon. Mrs. Castelleo is a patient in Bertie Memorial Hospital, Windsor.

The Rev. and Mrs. Oscar Turner returned home Tuesday of last week after being away a few days visiting relatives and friends in Leaksville, N. C., and Cascade, Va. The Rev. Mr. Turner was guest speaker for Homecoming Services which were held at Willis Missionary Baptist Church in Cascade, Va., while they were away.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Sawyer of Edenton visited Butler Williams on Wednesday night of last week.

Mrs. D. P. Mizelle, Mrs. Betty McWalters and girls, Angella and Tommie of Edenton spent Thursday with Mrs. C. T. Baker and family.

Mrs. Linwood Bunch made a trip to Kecoughtan, Va., on Thursday to see her father, R. J. Mitchell in veterans hospital. Edmund Davenport of Plymouth spent Wednesday visiting his brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Davenport, Mr. and Mrs. Louise Pratt and son,

Stanley, Mrs. Madge Goodwin and daughter, Joan of Edenton, visited Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Davenport and family Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. George Bazemore, Joseph Oliver, Kermit Mizelle and children, David, Ruth Ann and Judy, also Mrs. Faye Harrell of Edenton were visitors in the home of Mrs. C. T. Baker on Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Glasgow and children, Dell, Howard and Mark of Durham, spent the week-end with Mrs. Glasgow's father, Butler Williams.

Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Williams and daughter, Lynn of Ahoskie, Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Williams and daughter, Julie Ann, of Portsmouth, Va., Mr. and Mrs. Howard Glasgow and children, Dell, Howard and Mark of Durham were dinner guests of their father, Butler Williams on Sunday.

Mrs. J. B. Smithwick and daughter, Amelia visited Mrs. Smithwick's sister, Mrs. Gladys Outlaw Saturday afternoon.

Mrs. Frank Bradshay of Greensboro, Mrs. Odell White and Mrs. Janie Russell of Windsor spent Tuesday with Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Pruden, Sr.

Wayne Keeter of Rocky Mount spent the week-end with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Cliff Keeter.

Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Pruden, Jr., and children, Ellen, Edmund III and Ina Marie spent the week-end in their cottage at Nags Head.

Little Mary Beth Smithwick of Windsor spent a few days last week with her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. R. P. Smithwick, Joe Cobb of Washington, D. C., and David Lytle of Newport News, Va., visited friends on Saturday.

Mrs. E. J. Pruden, Jr., and son, Edmund III were in Ahoskie Thursday on business.

Charlie Keeter of Newport News, Va., spent Saturday with his brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Cliff Keeter.

Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Smithwick and children, Amelia and Britt visited Fonda Smithwick at East Carolina College, Greenville, on Sunday.

Mrs. Linwood Bunch and daughter, Ann, were in Edenton on Friday shopping.

Mrs. Chloe Byrd spent Friday in Ahoskie visiting friends.

Anna Raye, Martin and Marion White, Ann Smithwick and Kay White attended a football game in Windsor Friday night.

Mrs. Chet White and daughter, Anna Raye, were in Edenton Thursday shopping. Pfc. Enlion Ray Winslow has been spending some time at home with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Alton Winslow. Pfc. Wins-

low has been on sick leave due to the misfortune of getting one of his legs broken. He will be leaving September 15 for Massachusetts where he will be assigned to overseas duty in Korea.

Mrs. Ed Daniels was a patient in Bertie Memorial Hospital a few days last week.

Bert Bazemore returned to his home in Edenton on Tuesday of last week after spending a few days with his uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Davis.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Davis, Mrs. Kenneth Spivey and boys, Ken and Kerry, visited Mrs. Davis' sister, Mrs. Minnie Bazemore, in Edenton on Tuesday of last week. Mrs. Bazemore is at home now after being a patient in Chowan Hospital a few days.

Mrs. H. G. Evans, Jr., who was on the staff of nurses at Bertie Memorial Hospital, Windsor, has resigned and accepted a position with Doctor Wood and Doctor Bond, in the Chowan Medical Center, Edenton.

Mrs. Chet White and daughter, Anna Raye, were in Windsor Saturday afternoon on business.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Davis and Mrs. W. T. Davis visited Mr. and Mrs. James Davis in Windsor Saturday morning.

Mr. and Mrs. Ben Evans and boys of Norfolk, Va., spent Sunday with Mr. Evans' brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. H. G. Evans, Jr.

Rupert Liverman of Harrellsville visited his son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Pruden, Jr., and children on Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Chet White and daughter, Anna Raye, visited Mr. and Mrs. Milton Robertson in Rosemeade on Sunday afternoon.

W. T. Davis visited relatives and friends in Edenton Sunday.

Mrs. T. E. White and daughter, Mrs. Virgie Baker visited Mrs. White's sister, Mrs. Mary Castelleo who remains quite ill in the Bertie Memorial Hospital, on Sunday afternoon.

Revival meetings will be held at Merry Hill Baptist Church

during the season, winning 18 and losing only 7. The team had 7 hitters to have a .300 batting average for the season. They were M. Nixon, L. Jordan, A. Bunch, W. Evans, Z. Harrell, B. Goldsby and Johnnie Bass.

## Rocky Hock Ends Baseball Season With 18-7 Record

The Rocky Hock baseball team ended its season Wednesday of last week by winning the two last games. They defeated Riverside Wednesday night by a 17-1 score behind the 2-hit pitching of Wallace Evans, who struck out - and walked 5 in a 7-inning contest. Rocky Hock picked up 13 hits off Riverside pitchers, Bunch, Peele and Leary. Johnnie Bass led the Rocky Hock hitting attack with 4 hits, while Nixon, Saunders and Evans had 2 each. Bunch and Leary got the only Riverside hits.

Friday night Rocky Hock defeated Perrytown 14-0 when Rocky Hock celebrated homecoming. Zackie Harrell went the distance for Rocky Hock, giving up 6 hits, striking out 10 and walking 1. Rocky Hock picked up 12 hits off Perrytown hurlers Bowen and Perry. Switch hitter Alvin Bunch got 4 hits for Rocky Hock, two of which were batting right handed and two left-handed. Pitcher Zackie Harrell had 3 hits, while Evans and Tynch had 2 each. Whit Perry had 2 hits for Perrytown.

During this game Rocky Hock manager, Wallace Evans, presented player awards to Catcher Alvin Bunch and Pitcher Zackie Harrell. They were given new baseballs autographed by their teammates and furnished by Hughes-Parker Hardware Company. Pitcher Zackie Harrell won 8 games and lost only 2 this season.

Door prizes for the game were given by W. T. Smith Grocery. Rocky Hock played 25 games

## Cotton Production Reflecting Decrease

Cotton production in North Carolina is estimated at 280,000 bales of 500 pounds gross weight by the North Carolina Crop Reporting Service. This forecast is based upon reports from growers and ginners throughout the cotton producing areas of the State.

The September 1 estimate is 30,000 bales below the August 1 forecast and compares with 322,000 bales harvested last year and the 10-year (1949-58) average production of 377,000 bales. If the September 1 forecast materializes, a crop of this size would be 42,000 bales or 13.0 percent less than 1959 production and 25.7 percent below the 10-year average.

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—Thomas Jefferson.



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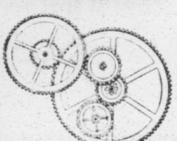
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