

The Cherokee Scout FARM PAGE

KEEP ROOSTERS PENNED TO GET "QUALITY" EGGS

**Infertile Output Found
Better in Size, And
Keeps Longer**

There is a continuous and increasing demand on the part of the consuming public for quality eggs.

Egg quality, in general, involves the size, shape, color and shell texture from an external standpoint. Internally, the air cell should be firm, small and regular; the percent of firm albumin should be large; the yolk should have a standing up quality; the egg should be free from blood spots, embryo development, foreign bodies, and obnoxious odors and tastes.

To get this quality under summer conditions, says Prof. Roy S. Dearstyne, head of the State College Poultry Department, see to it that only infertile eggs are produced. "Aside from breeding purposes, the males serve no useful purpose in the flock. Fertile eggs develop rapidly during warm weather and definite embryos may be observed in several days in such eggs," he said.

"Poultrymen should also avoid dirty nests," he continues. "Dirty nests mean soiled eggs which must be cleaned before marketing. Eggs should never be washed unless they are to enter channels of immediate consumption.

"Eggs should be collected several times each day. In hot weather this is a necessity, since summer heat plus moisture leads to a breaking down of the white yolk of the egg and the air cells become greatly enlarged due to rapid evaporation. On collection, the eggs should be stored in a cool moist room at a temperature ranging from 32 to 50 degrees Fahrenheit."

Finally, Prof. Dearstyne recommended that summer eggs be candled and that frequent deliveries be made, especially where storage facilities are inadequate.

FARM ITEMS

DOUBLED

Farmers have more than doubled their tree-planting activities since 1935, according to a report of the U. S. Forest Service, largely as a result of the Clarke-McNary Law.

POPULATION

The farm population of the United States on January 1 was close to the largest on record, the U. S. Bureau of Agricultural Economics accounting for 32,059,000 living on the farm.

PRICES

Livestock prices declined sharply during the month ending June 15 while grains, and most other groups of farm commodities advanced slightly, reports the U. S. Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

POTATOES AND CUCUMBERS ON RISE STATE MARKET REPORTS DISCLOSE

Food markets turned slightly weaker during the last week in June, states the North Carolina Department of Agriculture, but corn by-product feeds were not materially changed. Reduced marketings influenced rising potato markets and cucumber returns to North Carolina growers were also greater.

A fairly liberal supply of choice and prime steers and yearlings sold at steady prices throughout the week, while plain, medium and good grades selling 1,100 pounds up lost 25c and closed drab at the decline. Spring lambs closed weak to 25 cents lower and hogs finished 25-35 cents higher than late last week. Choice to prime steers topped at 11.10, spring lambs made 10.35 and a hog top of 7.50 appeared for the first time since April 6th.

Strictly grain fed steers and yearlings were marketing in liberal numbers but found dependable outlet at steady prices. Aside from these

FERTILIZER PRICES

"Fertilizer prices are too high!" This has been the universal complaint of American farmers for many years. In North Carolina the average farmer places one dollar back into the soil in the form of commercial plant food for every five dollars worth of crops he harvests. Yes, fertilizer is a big item.

Our State consumes from one-fifth to one-seventh of all the fertilizer used in America, and one dollar a ton in price means a difference of a million dollars in the annual collective fertilizer bill of North Carolina farmers.

Now the Federal Trade Commission is seeking to determine why fertilizer prices are what they are. As this is written an investigation of the fertilizer industry is under way by the United States Government. Among other things being looked into are charges of price-fixing and price discrimination and other unfair and monopolistic practices.

Whatever the reasons for high fertilizer prices, it seems in order to bring them to light. If you are interested in knowing why your fertilizer bill is what it is, then you will want to follow the investigation closely.

You also may wish to request your congressman to see that this investigation is thorough and all the facts are brought to light. The farmers are entitled to know and the companies are entitled to present the real issues back of fertilizer prices.

Timely Farm Questions

QUESTION: When should lespedeza be cut for hay?

ANSWER: This crop should be cut when it reaches a height of 15 inches or when it is in full bloom, whichever occurs first. For the Korean variety the average dates for cutting is from August 1 to September 1, and from August 15 to October 1 for the other varieties. To delay harvest will usually injure the quality through loss of the lower leaves. However, if July and August are dry and September wet, it will pay to delay mowing the Common, Tennessee 76, and Kobe varieties as the main growth of these will take place in the latter month.

QUESTION: Is there any way of telling how long a hen has been in molt?

ANSWER: The way in which a hen molts her primary wing feathers may be used as a measure in estimating how long the molt has been in progress. The inner primary feathers are usually dropped as soon as the bird stops laying. A new quill then starts which takes about six weeks to become full grown. To estimate the time of beginning of molt allow six weeks for the first full grown feather and two weeks for each additional feather grown to full size. In late molters two or more primary feathers may be dropped at the same time and

grades, the price trend on most killing classes was downward, fed heifers and cows selling off around 25 cents, while low price steers also registered a comparable decline. Plain medium and good grade steers of all weights, but particularly those upward from 1,100 pounds, finished at the full 25 cents downturn.

Choice to prime 1,275 pound steers topped at 11.10, with 10.75 next highest price paid for the light cattle. Heavies stopped at 10.60 and a liberal portion of the weighty bullock offerings sold at 9.75-10.35. On steers of value to sell upward from 9.75 it was mostly a steady market, while cattle of less value received a 25 cent price cut. Fed heifers were fairly numerous and sold up to 9.60. A few loads of dry cows sold at 7.00-7.50, but there were relatively little in the run to sell above 7.00. Sausage bulls ranged downward from 7.50 and vealers cashed at 10.00 on early session.

FIVE IN CHEROKEE IN CLOSE CONTEST FOR 4-H HONORS

**Scholarship At State
College To Be Prize
Awarded To Winner**

Two boys and three girls from this section are striving for the honor of representing Cherokee as the County's delegate to the annual 4-H Short Course to be held at North Carolina State College, Raleigh July 24-25. The boy or girl chosen from this group as the County's outstanding student will win a scholarship.

The contestant are Rardolph Shields, of Culberson, route one, Burke Wood, of Andrews, Jean Dyer of Murphy, Route 2, Irene Gentry, of Murphy Route 3, and Nancy Sue Waldroup, of Brasstown.

The 4-H course combines education recreation and inspiration and offers boys and girls the chance to exchange ideas, receive the latest information of agricultural and home-making developments, and engage in programs of entertainment and games. The Home-making course exclusively for girls, includes special instruction in cooking, sewing, canning, and other domestic arts. The girls have the privilege of studying all or specializing in any one or two.

One of the features of this year's gathering in Raleigh will be a pageant depicting the 25-year history of 4-H Club leader, and Miss Frances MacGregor, assistant state club leader, have selected several county groups to act out in pantomime among the various phases of the youth-training organization.

The annual state 4-H health contest will be another highlight of the program, with the crowning of the 1939 health king and queen to be a part of the Pageant of Progress. Health kings and queens have been selected in each of the five districts of the State and they will compete for the State honors.

The State finals of the Dairy Demonstration Team contest also will be held during the Short Course, with the winning team of two club members receiving a free trip to the National Dairy Show in California later this summer.

FARMERS' PROFITS ON INCREASE DUE TO CONSERVATION

Agricultural Conservation has made much progress in Cherokee county during the past three years through the Triple-A program, reports A. Q. Kotner, county farm agent of the State Extension Service. The program is becoming increasingly popular and last year 74.6 percent of the cropland in the county was in the program. This compares with 48.8 percent in 1936 and 72.9 percent in 1937.

Farmers earned 61.9 percent of their maximum soil-building payments in 1938, 59.3 percent in 1937, and 79.5 percent in 1936. To receive these payments they planted within their acreage allotments and carried out such valuable soil-building practices as seeding legumes and grasses; turning under green manure crops; applying ground limestone, and planting trees and improving timber stands.

For instance, in 1936 a total of 1648 acres of legumes and grasses were seeded in this county. In 1937 it was 1,437 acres, and in 1938 the seedings totaled 2,381 acres. Of these 150 acres of winter legumes were seeded in 1937 and 820 acres in 1938. Green manure crops were turned under as follows: 2,709 acres in 1936, 5,113 acres in 1937, and 6,560 acres in 1938.

Applications of ground limestone totaled 186 tons in 1936, 715 tons in 1937, and 1,498 tons in 1938. Trees

INCREASE

An increase of 20 per cent in the spring pig crop and the expectation of a 16 per cent increase in the fall pig crop should make 1939 the largest swine year since 1923.

The Federal Surplus Commodities Corporation purchased 122,000,000 pounds of surplus butter during the fiscal year ending June 30, at a cost of \$34,500,000, including the handling charges.

these must be counted as one in estimating the time of molt.

QUESTION: Is there any fertilizer value to tobacco stalks?

ANSWER: Green tobacco stalks when plowed under carry a certain amount of plant food, but the greatest benefit from plowing under the stalks comes from the destruction of insect pests. The suckers that grow on stalks left standing furnish a breeding place for millions of these pests which will attack the crop next season. Immediately after the harvest all stalks should be cut or plowed under. In this way the insects will be destroyed and the available plant food put back into the soil.

Fine Program Developed For N. C. Farm-Home Week

**Women Will Be Given
Prominent Place
In Exercises**

Although practical farmers and farm women will occupy a more important place than ever on the Farm and Home Week program at State College July 31-August 4, a tentative list of speakers announced by John W. Goodman and Miss Ruth Carrent, officials of the Extension Service in charge of arrangements, shows that an interesting convention is assured.

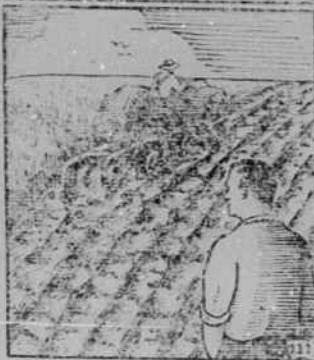
Governor Clyde R. Hoey heads the list, which also includes Dr. E. V. McCullom, head of the School of Hygiene and Public Health of Johns Hopkins University; Dr. T. B. Hutchison, head of the agronomy department of Virginia Polytechnic Institute; Rueben Brigham, assistant director of the National Agricultural Extension Service; P. D. Sanders, Editor of the Southern Planter; Oscar Johnston, president of the National Cotton Council; Dr. Malcolm D. Taylor of the American Marketing Association, Chapel Hill; Dr. Randolph Jones, Jr., of Duke University; and Dr. C. C. Carpenter, of Wake Forest College.

George R. Stockwell, owner and operator of the Reedy Fork Farm near Elon College in Guilford County, is president of the Farmer's Convention and will preside over the formal session. He is widely known as a successful farmer and for his co-operative system to help solve the tenant problem on his 400-acre farm.

Mrs. N. E. Neill of Newell in Mecklenburg County will preside over the woman's session as president of the State Federation of Home Demonstration Clubs. The Home Demonstration Club women will observe Federation Day on Thursday, August 3, and Honor Day on Friday, August 4, as a part of the convention.

A program of entertainment and recreation also has been arranged for each evening during the week.

Uncle Jim Says



The practical farmer should know that plowing up and down a slope just digs a bunch of little inches that will carry off some of his top soil every time it rains.

Here, There On Farms

Did you know:-

That a door that sticks will open easily if laundry soap is rubbed on the "sticky spot."

That a piece of butter paper folded on the knife blade will help to slice butter evenly. This is especially helpful if the butter is molded in sticks.

If gummed labels are difficult to adhere to glass, add a few drops of lemon juice or vinegar to water before moistening.

That to grind nuts with coarse grinder or food chopper gives cake fillings and candy a better flavor than to chop nuts with a knife. This is especially true of black walnut meats.

Cheese is an inexpensive and very valuable food. It contains rich vitamins and proteins and there is probably something to the idea that the habitual cheese-eater lives long and has a sturdy heart.

A livestock dealer of Shelby rents out cows to small farmers for from 75 cents to \$1.50 a week, with the renter providing the feed. When the cow goes dry, the dealer replaces her with a fresh milker.

On land where Dave Thomas, Sylva, Jackson County, applied lime and triple superphosphate, the grass and clover are at least 30 per cent larger than where no phosphate was used.

In hot weather water stock three to four times daily, and keep salt where they can get it, or serve it twice weekly.

The cow, sow, hen, horse, mule and dog thrive best with shade. Its provision is a profitable investment.

Pastures should be mowed regularly if infested with weeds. If not mowed they become briar patches, weed preserves and infant forests.

Remember that one-fourth acre in a 12-month garden is worth more to the farm family than the average acre in other crops on the average farm. If one must be neglected, then do not neglect the garden.

An English Shorthorn cow named Cherry recently broke the world's record for a year's milk production. Cherry gave nearly 21 tons of milk in a year. Her daily average was over 14 gallons. Such a cow does not worry about daylight or moonlight saving time. This one cow is equal to seven "good" cows—cows that average two gallons of milk daily. As an investment, what is such a cow worth?

Tariff is a foreign name for tax, but it is not fragrant in any language.

Speaking of tax—did you know that crop disease and insects cost more than farm taxes?

Do not let the rooster get within speaking distance of the hens until next Thanksgiving.

forest planted in 1937 was 4,000 on four acres, while in 1938 25,000 on 25 acres. Also in 1938 there was a total of 110 acres of forest improved by thinning for the first time in the county.

Figures announced by E. Y. Floyd, AAA executive officer of State College, show that, for the state as a whole, 87.1 percent of the cropland was included in the Agricultural Conservation Program last year. Only 66.0 percent was in the program in 1937, and only 61.9 percent in 1936.

Farm Prices in Slump During Holiday Week

Raleigh, N. C., July 1939. Holidays restricted trading in feed during the past week, but prices continued on a down trend influenced by abundant pasturage in many areas and declines in grain prices, states the U. S. and North Carolina Departments of Agriculture in the weekly market news service review. Corn feeds were somewhat weaker reflecting declines in corn prices, and the slack feeder inquiry. The index of wholesale feed-stuff prices was down to 101.6, compared with 104.4 a week ago and 97.7 a year ago.

The poultry and egg situation in June showed little improvement over previous months of this year. Prices of eggs were at the lowest level since 1934, and prices of chickens were lower than at any time since the winter of 1937. Live poultry, however, held mostly steady.

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Laying Mash
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Scratch Grain
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Hog Ration
\$2.20 per 100 lbs.

Loreda Soy Beans
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Tokio Beans
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Crimson Clover
14 cents per lb.



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