

# The Cherokee Scout FARM PAGE

## CAREFUL WATCH NEEDED TO BALK HAY PILE FIRES

### Chopped Crop Offers Special Danger At This Season

Hay fires, resulting from spontaneous combustion, cause thousands of dollars worth of losses annually, according to David S. Weaver, extension agricultural engineer at State College.

At this season of the year, growers should keep a close watch on their chopped hay to detect any signs of heating. Naturally, chopped hay packs more closely and dries out more slowly than other hay. For this reason, it should be better cured than unchopped hay.

Even with precautions, chopped hay sometimes gets damp and heats. For example, there have been cases reported in which chopped hay was put through driers, and the bulk of it well-dried. However, little bunches of damp hay slipped through.

As a result, the damp spots heated. At some of these spots the hay merely browned or charred, but at others, fire actually broke out causing much loss.

In ordinary hay, these hot portions are most likely to be good sized and located near the center of the mow. However, chopped hay is different. In a mow of chopped hay, the grower should look for smaller hot spots at more or less widely scattered points. If the spots are unusually hot, Weaver advises having good supply of water at hand before the hay is distributed or removed. If fire does break out, it can be distinguished readily.

Weaver says chopped hay can be made safer by cutting it longer than was recommended in the early days of chopping; that is, the hay should be cut in about two-inch lengths. Then, as a large number of farmers are turning chopped hay in buildings as a part from their livestock.

## TIMELY TOPICS

In 1870 more than half of the gainfully employed people in the United States were farmers, but by 1930 this proportion had fallen to a little more than a fifth.

It is estimated that every increase of \$100 in the income received by families whose yearly income is \$1,000 or less from 20 to 30 percent of the increase would be spent for food.

The value of poultry and eggs produced in the United States in 1938 was nearly a billion dollars, or about 12 percent of the total farm income.

A total of 350 cotton improvement groups had been approved by August 10 for free classification of their 1939 crop as compared with only three for the 1938-39 ginning season.

Virginia, with 95,000,000 pounds, will produce its largest crop of flue-cured tobacco since 1927 this year, according to the U. S. Crop Reporting Service.

This year more than 53 percent of North Carolina's farmers attended meetings or demonstrations held by their county agents, a recent survey revealed.

## Timely Farm Questions

**QUESTION:** How should grain be fed to hens so as to secure the highest egg production?

**ANSWER:** A small amount of grain should be fed in the morning and the remainder at night in order to secure a higher egg production. The morning feed should be placed in clean litter about four to six inches deep. There seems to be a growing tendency among North Carolina poultrymen to make the afternoon feeding in troughs.

This is a good practice, especially if infectious diseases or internal parasites are present. A flock of 100 hens will ordinarily consume from 10 to 12 pounds of grain daily. Of this amount one pound is sufficient for the morning feeding with the remainder being fed late in the afternoon.

**QUESTION:** When should I plant my fall garden?

**ANSWER:** Of course, the time to plant depends on hardness of the vegetables, time of maturity, and the section in which you live. Tender vegetables must necessarily be planted in time for them to mature before killing frosts occur.

However, many of the cool-season vegetables will mature a crop through light frosts even though they will not withstand heavy freezes. For complete directions on planting a fall garden, write to the Agricultural Editor at State College, Raleigh, for Extension Circular No. 122.

**QUESTION:** Should alfalfa be seeded in the fall or spring?

**ANSWER:** Enos Blair, State College extension agronomist, says experiments have shown that fall seeding is usually more satisfactory in the lower region. One great advantage of seeding in the fall is that the young alfalfa plants will not have to compete with weed and grass. By the time spring arrives, they will be large enough to withstand the invasion. When seeded in the lower elevations of the mountain region, alfalfa should be put in between now and August 15.

**QUESTION:** What is the best time for seeding lawns?

**ANSWER:** Outside of the mountains, best results are usually secured by early fall seeding, and even in the mountains especially at elevations of less than 2,500 feet, better lawns are secured through the early fall plantings. This early seeding will allow the grass to become well established before the winter and will give it a good start in the spring on the weeds and undesirable grasses. Use the best seed obtainable and do not stint on the use of this seed. About three pounds for each 1,000 square feet should be used for best results and a good stand.

**QUESTION:** Is it necessary to add minerals to the dairy ration when legume hay is fed?

**ANSWER:** Legume hays, when grown on land not deficient in lime, will usually supply sufficient calcium for the average cow and an adequate supply of phosphorus can be secured from the grain ration provided it contains as much as 30 per cent of feeds such as wheat bran, cottonseed meal and soybean meal. However, a good producing cow often draws on the mineral reserve stored in her bones, especially during the early part of the lactation period. For this reason it is best to add to each 100 pounds of concentrate ration two pounds of a mineral mixture composed of equal parts of finely ground limestone and steamed bone meal. This mixture, together with that carried in the hay and grain, will be sufficient.

## Here, There On Farms

A summary of 70 Franklin County farms picked at random from compliance supervisors' reports indicates that 171 per cent of the allotted acreage has been planted in tobacco this year.

Where his land was treated with lime, Dennis Higdon, Webster, Jackson County, has received a 50 per cent better growth of lespedeza than on his unlimed land.

Although the total acreage of corn in Craven County is apparently smaller than that of last year, the crop is growing exceptionally well, reports Farm Agent L. G. Matthis.

Stanly County poultrymen are showing much faith in vaccination for the prevention of chicken pox in growing pullets, says J. E. Wilson, farm agent of the State College Extension Service.

Walter Pennington, of Ashe County, says the best grass in his pasture is near the no-grade terraces he has constructed around the top of a pasture hill.

Older men frequently distrust young men. They fear that they are inexperienced and unseasoned. But today a good part of the older generation is glad that young men are being given responsibility and opportunity. Some investors are deliberately choosing to put their savings in the care of men in their early thirties, who are looking ahead to the good new days and who know nothing of the good old days.

In the times of world transition it is well to remember that young men have assumed great responsibilities in the past and discharged them well.

The average age of the men in George Washington's cabinet was under forty. Hamilton was thirty-two, Jefferson forty-six, General Knox thirty-nine, Randolph thirty-six, and Samuel Osgood forty-one.

Jefferson wrote the Declaration of Independence when he was thirty-three, and Washington was twenty-three when he was made commander-in-chief of the forces in Virginia. Daniel Webster entered Congress at thirty, and Henry Clay was appointed a Senator at twenty-nine, before he was of constitutional age.

William Pitt was prime minister of England when he was twenty-four.

Young men have always done big things.

## SUNDAY ON FARM

Mr. and Mrs. Walter C. Witt and daughter, Maudie B. Witt were Sunday guests at their farm on Notla River.

## DAIRYMEN GIVEN REAL ECONOMY IN TRENCH SILOS

### Popularity Increasing With N. C. Farms State Finds

Steadily increasing in popularity not only with small farmers but large ones as well is the trench silo, says John A. Arey, extension dairyman at State College.

For many years silage has been recognized as one of the best and most economical home-grown roughages for cattle. It is economical because a large quantity can be grown on a small acreage with a comparatively small amount of labor. Then, too, only a small loss is sustained during the harvesting and feeding operations.

One of the most economical ways of keeping this economical feed is the trench silo, Arey said. It is especially well adapted to the medium or small-sized herd where the initial cost of constructing an upright silo would be too heavy.

Trench silos have been used widely in North Carolina for more than five years, and those who have used these silos have found them to have the following advantages: low cost of construction, low cost of filling equipment, an ease of construction. Also fire and wind hazards are completely eliminated.

Since the trench silo can be constructed with farm labor, the roof represents the principal cash outlay of an unlined silo. The roof may be constructed from rough lumber which is usually available on the farm at a small cost.

The equipment required for filling the trench silo is less expensive than that required for the upright. A small cutter without a blower will do the job satisfactorily. Such a cutter with a capacity of four to five tons an hour can be operated with a 5 H. P. gasoline engine which retails from 75 to 100 dollars.

## N. C. Tobacco Scales Tested; Found Perfect

Tobacco scales of North Carolina warehousemen are now in almost perfect condition.

That is the finding of C. D. Baucum, chief of the State Department of Agriculture's weights and measures division whose staff has just completed a check of all tobacco scales in the Border belt.

In one large market where 4,387, 356 pounds of leaf were sold through the week ending August 11, representing approximately 53,000 baskets with a total error in weight of only 86 pounds was found.

According to Coney Island authorities, the famed American "hot dog" is 50 years old. They say the first frankfurter placed inside a roll was served there in 1889.

## TREE SEEDLINGS AGAIN AVAILABLE TO N. C. FARMERS

Tree seedlings for reforestation and erosion control will again be available this year to farmers and other landowners at a nominal cost, announces R. W. Graeber, forester of the State College Extension Service. Nearly four million seedlings are being produced at the State Forest Nurseries at Clayton, near Raleigh, and in Henderson County.

Application blanks may be obtained from county farm agents.

The prices are \$2 per thousand, delivered, of \$1.80 per thousand, F. O. B. the nurseries, for loblolly, longleaf, shortleaf, and slash pines, black locusts, cypress, yellow poplar, white ash, or red cedar.

White pines are available this year for planting to the Upper Piedmont and mountain areas at \$3 per thousand delivered, of \$2.75 per thousand, F. O. B. Black walnut seedlings will cost \$10 per thousand delivered, or \$8.50, F. O. B.

The shipping season begins about November 25, at Clayton for the Southern pines, and will be November 1-30 and March 1-April 5 from the Henderson nursery.

The Extension specialists recommends that hardwood or deciduous trees be planted anytime after November 1 in the mountains, time after November 15 in the Piedmont and Coastal Plains section.

## "FERTILIZER DAY" SET FOR AUGUST 31 AT ROCKY MOUNT

A fertilizer conference and field day will be held at the Upper Coastal Plain Test Farm near Rocky Mount on Thursday, August 31, for the purpose of better acquainting farmers and the fertilizer industry with soil fertility problems.

Well-known speakers from the North Carolina Department of Agriculture, N. C. Experiment Station, National Fertilizer Association and Plant Food will be heard, and field tours of the test farm will be conducted in the afternoon under the direction of R. E. Currin Jr., assistant director in charge of the farm. Experiments will be explained by Experiment Station specialists.

Commissioner of Agriculture W. Kerr Scott will deliver the address of welcome and D. S. Colstrane assistant commissioner will preside. The public is invited.

There is a real absent-minded professor at Virginia Tech. He drove to a nearby town; forgot he had an auto, and returned home by train. Then remembering his car, he went by train to get it, but bought a round-trip ticket.

Filmore McIntosh, campaigning in the Kentucky mountains in an ox wagon, filed an expense account containing these items: Ox shoes, nails and shoeing oxen, \$3.45; wagon grease, \$1.50; feed for oxen, \$45; sandpaper for polishing horns of oxen, 10c.

## We Don't Slash Prices Because Our Tires are Priced Right to Begin With

When a man pays one price, and his neighbor gets the same thing at a so-called "special sale" for less—somebody is getting stuck. RFDc

## Our Price Represents Dollar for Dollar Value EVERY DAY

And we not only give a year's Guarantee—our tires are Stamped with the MAKER'S NAME  
WE BOTH STAND BACK OF THEM FOR HONEST,  
FIXED VALUES BUY FROM

**J. L. HALL, Murphy, N. C.**  
**WOCO PEP**—the high powered fuel at "straight gas" price.  
**TIOLENE**—the Best Motor Oil in the world  
GREASING MADE INTO A FINE ART.

For Superior Service

VISIT

**Texaco Service Station**

MURPHY N. C.

Lubrication all sizes—All makes—75c

No Guesswork

We Know How

G. P. (Robby) Robinson, Prop.