

Heart Talks To County Farmers

F. W. Risher, County Farm Demonstrator

GROWING COTTON UNDER BOLL WEEVIL CONDITIONS

BY B. W. KILGORE.

On a recent visit to the cotton boll weevil section of Mississippi, Louisiana and Alabama, I had opportunity to observe the changes brought about in farming by the weevil and the conditions under which cotton is grown in the presence of the boll weevil. No cotton is grown on the low, level lands along the coast, and comparatively none until the land begins to rise and is sufficiently elevated so as to give good drainage and warmth to the soil so that the cotton will grow off quickly. The lower lands are devoted to corn and food and feed crops and live stock, and the elevated lands are put in cotton. Even then the acreage is greatly reduced. This would indicate that the first two or three tiers of counties along our coast will eventually grow but little, if any, cotton, and the quicker we accept this situation, the better it shall likely be for our farmers.

In boll weevil territory cotton is generally planted in rather narrow rows, 3 to 3 1/2 feet, 2 to 4 stalks being left in a hill, 10 to 16 inches apart, as a rule, the planting being done as early as possible with a large amount of seed so that if the first to come up is killed there will be sufficient left to come later for a stand. The cotton should be fertilized liberally with a quick acting fertilizer before planting, and cultivated so as to make it grow quickly and put on the fruit as early as possible, using early maturing varieties. When side applications of fertilizer are used in the way of top dressers or other fertilizer, they should be put on right around the time of thinning the cotton so as to let them act early. Late applications of nitrate of soda, or other fertilizer, will help the weevil by giving it food for winter and multiplying late season. Generally it will be best to use all of the fertilizer before planting, especially where there is reasonably good subsoil, and nitrate of soda or other quick acting kinds of ammonia will give best results. Cotton planted in narrow rows and left thick in the drill, as stated above, will not grow large, but will begin to fruit early, the cotton being made largely on the stalks instead of on the bolls.

Small fields surrounded by wood are difficult to handle because the boll weevils live over winter in the trash in the woods and come out early and attack the cotton near the woods. Large open fields are desirable for this reason. The multiplication of the boll weevil can be reduced by picking up the squares as they fall early in the season. These will usually be found nearer the ends of the rows

next to the woods or along ditch banks where the boll weevils have lived over during the winter. Poisoning with arsenate of lead is effective but this is, to an extent, expensive and can only be afforded on reasonably good cotton. Good practice requires that just as soon as the cotton is gathered in the field, and this should be just as early as it is possible after opening, the stalks should be plowed under, and this custom should be followed universally if the section is to benefit by the practice. This buries boll weevil and destroys his food before the coming of cold weather. This reduces the number which will go over during the winter as they will die of starvation if deprived of food for a considerable length of time before cold weather comes. After the cold weather comes they hibernate and live without food, and come out with the warm weather of spring.

These in general are the methods of growing cotton under boll weevil conditions. Other crops, of which we have a considerable number, must be grown more largely than they have heretofore so as to produce a large quantity of food and feed crops for the farms and for the towns. Live stock, especially hogs, poultry and dairy cattle, must be grown more largely than heretofore, but no large attempt should be made in this direction suddenly except by those experienced in live stock raising. It is better to grow gradually into the live stock industry, but all the meat, poultry and dairy products for the farms and for the towns should be grown in the cotton section. This would mean greatly reduced acreage of cotton, possibly five to six acres to the plow, and would make it possible to handle cotton as it must be done in the presence of the boll weevil; that is, growing a much smaller acreage on the well drained, warm lands, planting early in narrow rows, using plenty of seed, leaving thick in the drill; fertilizing well before planting, in the main; cultivating frequently to hasten quick growth and maturity; picking up squares and poisoning with arsenate of lead; gathering the crop early and plowing under the stalks to destroy the boll weevil food.

Gardens for vegetables for year-round use as nearly as possible, and for canning for off seasons, will be more important than ever before, as will also the home orchard for fruits for the home, and fruits and vegetables to spare for the towns should be grown especially by the more experienced and well situated growers.

Mr. Farmer: The genius of a general is proven by his victories under adverse circumstances.

The future is before us, and the most far-seeing man, other things being equal, is the most successful man, no matter what his calling.

Farming is a big business—the biggest business.

Consistent success is the result of consistent planning.

A one-crop system indicates a one-crop mind—it is a gamble, and no man with a family has a moral right to gamble unless he can afford to lose.

There are very few exceptions to the rule that one good brood sow will pay well on any farm cared for and her two litters of pigs grown to a weight approximating 200 pounds at eight months old. There is a shortage of hogs—closeness of money will sacrifice many brood sows. The prospects for good returns from next spring's pigs are bright—fall farrowed pigs, pushed for next April market, will bring ready money at a time when it is needed. Too many hogs are as bad, or worse, than too much cotton, or tobacco. Keeping only what one can furnish proper grazing and liberal feed for will pay. Remember: the future is a white page, yours to write upon—our only guides are past results and present conditions. We are at your service. OFFICE OF SWINE EXTENSION, W. W. SHAY, in Charge.

Summer Pasture for Sows and Pigs I wish to make a spring and summer pasture for sows and pigs, something to make a rapid and tender growth.—S. G. H., Eastern N. C.

Plant part of pasture in Essex rape, using two or three pounds per acre if planted in rows, or about six pounds broadcast. Sow the other part in oats, two or three bushels per acre. In May follow oats with mixture of one-half bushel of sorghum, a peck of New Era, and two to four pecks of Whipper-will, Iron or Brabham cowpeas. An application of stable manure will be beneficial to rape, and we suggest that all these crops, rape, oats and peas be fertilized if your land needs fertilizer for cotton or corn. We suggest further that you sow oats and rape very early for your locality and reserve enough seed for second planting if killed by cold. Next fall plant rape, oats, sorghum and crimson clover in September, and have them growing through the winter.

Smoking Meat After Curing After the meat is cured, wash it thoroughly with lukewarm water and hang in the smoke house for smoking. Hang the pieces of meat so they will not touch but will permit a free circulation of air. After the meat has been hanging 24 hours start the smoke, using hickory, maple or some hard wood. Corn cobs will do, but they give the meat a dirty appearance. Don't get the meat too hot. Let the fire start slowly and keep it well smothered. Thirty-six to 48 hours' smoking is sufficient, but in hot weather it is better to start the fire every other day and smoke a total of 60 hours.

Smoked meat, after it is hard and firm, should be wrapped in heavy paper and put in a muslin sack. It is very important that the top of the sack be tied so that it will keep insects out. Paint each sack with yellow wash and hang the meat up. Never stack it in a pile. Recipe for yellow wash: For 100 pounds of ham or bacon use 3 pounds of barium sulphate; 1 ounce of glue; 1 1/3 ounces chrome yellow (lead chromate); 6 ounces

of flour. Fill a pail about one-half full of water and dissolve all of the flour. Dissolve the chrome yellow in a quart of water in a separate vessel and add the solution and the glue to the flour. Bring this to a boil and add the barium sulphate slowly, stirring constantly. Make the wash the day before it is required. Stir it frequently when using and apply with a brush.

"KISSING TIME"

The attraction at the LaFayette Theatre on Monday, December 19, will be "Kissing Time," a musical comedy by George V. Hobart. The piece is founded on a French farce and deals with the enormous adventures of an elderly financier who insists that his clerks shall marry, while the girls in the dress-making establishment, of which he is the backer, must remain single. The love interest is furnished by a convent bred girl who is to marry a youth she has never seen, and is persuaded to impersonate the wife of the young man at an annual dinner of the employees of the bank at which they are expected to present their wives to their directors. To avoid the expense of keeping a wife on their meager salaries, the clerks secure the services of their girl friends to appear at the banquet. Ivan Caryll is responsible for the score of which "Bill and Coo," "Kickerikee," "Love's Telephone" and "Come Back to Me" are the outstanding hits. The cast is made up of well known players and includes Evelyne Lynn, Dan Marble, Mabel Freney, Murray Stephens, Mabel Gould, Charles Horne, Jesse Wilfingham and Augusta Buell. Ivan Caryll has provided a melodious score, the song hits of which are "Kissing Time," "Bill and Coo," "Love's Telephone," "Kickerikee" and the "Mimi Waltz." A procession of beautiful gowns by Hickson, a chorus directed by Edward Royce and stage settings of unusual beauty makes "Kissing

WHAT THE PEOPLE SHOULD KNOW

A CARD TO THE DEAR PUBLIC

Today we make a most important theatrical announcement.

We have just contracted with the A. L. Erlanger Exchange to bring America's foremost musical show, "The Right Girl," to Fayetteville on Thursday, December 22.

"The Right Girl" is without doubt the most brilliant musical success of this day. It ran six months in New York, at the Times Square Theatre and was one of the Musical Comedy hits of the season. In every community where it is presented it invariably receives the enthusiastic endorsement of all classes. This is the original company and production that made theatrical history on Broadway. There is no other company.

"The Right Girl" is by Raymond W. Pock and Percy Wenrich, telling in three acts of hilarious fun and laughter, the tribulations of a poor young girl fellow trying to find the Right Girl, Love and Happiness.

"The Right Girl" is properly called "America's Foremost Musical Show." We know of our own knowledge that this play has been a sensation elsewhere. We are sure it will arouse enormous interest here.

The prices for this engagement will be 75c, \$1, \$1.50, \$2. Mail orders are now being received at the office of the Broadway Theatre. Make checks and money orders payable to LaFayette Theatre and inclose self-addressed stamped envelope for return of tickets.

W. H. PONTON, Manager. Note—Your money refunded if you don't like it.

Time well worth seeing. Special pre-war prices will prevail for engagement of this attraction.

URGENT PASSAGE OF ANTY-LYNCHING BILL

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—Republican leaders of the house were requested today by the Second Colored World Democracy Congress in session here to present a petition to the House, urging passage of the Dyer anti-lynching bill. The congress said it acted in half of "a constituency of eleven million American citizens."

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—The nomination of Elmer Dyer of Tacoma, Washington, to be an assistant secretary of the treasury was understood today to have been recommended to President Harding by Secretary Mellon. Mr. Dyer would succeed Angus W. MacLean of Lumberton, North Carolina, and would have charge of internal revenue and customs. His appointment would complete the new organization of the treasury, which provides for three assistant secretaries and an under-secretary, instead of four assistant secretaries as formerly.

Tacoma Man Said to Be Slated for Job

EXECUTOR'S NOTICE Having this day qualified as executor of the last will and testament of Hector Strickland, late of the County of Cumberland, State of North Carolina, this is to notify all persons having claims against the estate of the said deceased to present them to the undersigned on or before the 15th of December, 1921, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment. Executor, H. B. STRICKLAND, 16 23 39 6 13 20

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