

News of Interest to COTTON GROWERS

Cotton Staple Is Shorter This Year

(By GLENN R. SMITH)

The staple of North Carolina cotton is shorter this year than it was a year ago. Only 42 per cent of that ginned to November 1 has been an inch or longer as compared with 54 per cent for the corresponding period last year.



Thirty-one per cent has been less than 1 1/8 - 1 1/4 as compared to only 21 per cent last season. The percentage of cotton of one inch in staple is about the same as last year, while the percentage of 1 1/8 inch is considerably less.

Cotton is of better staple length than two years ago, however. Only 25 per cent of that ginned during September and October in 1933 was an inch or longer, while 44 per cent was less than 1 1/8 inch.

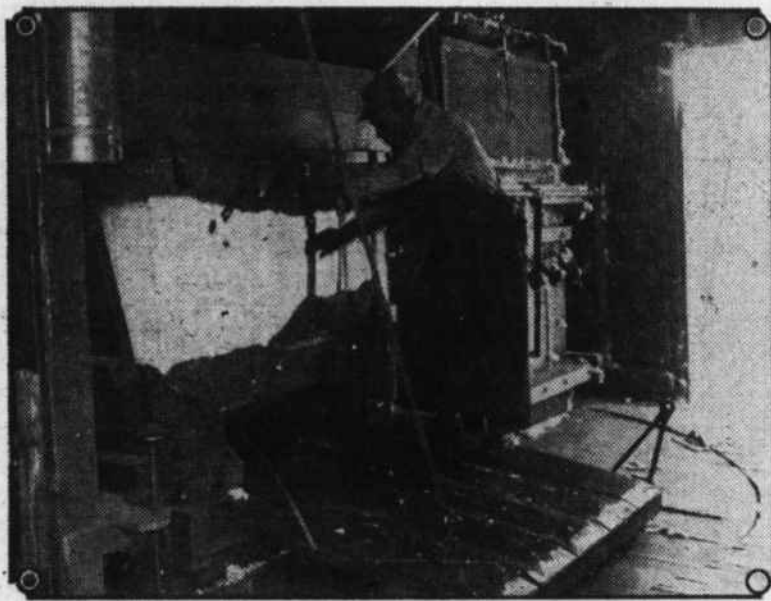
Approximately six per cent has been less than 7-8 inch as compared with one per cent last year and four per cent two years ago. There is little demand for this extremely short cotton and farmers are urged to plant seed next year that will produce a better staple length.

For the State as a whole there is very little difference in grade from last year. Over two-thirds of the cotton ginned has been middling or better in grade. In those communities where weather conditions were more unfavorable than a year ago, the cotton is of lower grade.

The grade of cotton is determined largely by picking, handling and ginning practices, while the length of staple is determined largely by seed planted. If a farmer wishes to raise cotton of an inch or longer staple, he should plant pure seed of recognized variety that produces this length.

If extraordinary precautions are not taken at time of ginning pure seed will become mixed and "run down" within a short time. Farmers having good yielding cotton that produces an inch staple this year should not allow their seed to become mixed at the gin. In buying seed, "certified seed" are most desirable.

Baling Cotton In S. Carolina



War, Japan And AAA Program Mask Domestic Cotton Hopes

BY A STAFF WRITER

Foreign demand for American cotton continued heavy during the latter part of October and November and further improvement in Liverpool created sufficient buying power to absorb liberal hedge selling.

Late in November, there was an estimate of 236,000 bales on shipboard compared with 70,000 a year ago. This foreshadowed a continued large export movement.

The world supply of all cotton for the 1935-36 season is slightly larger than for the preceding seasons supply and about 12 per cent above the average for the 10 years 1923-33. The supply of Indian and Egyptian cottons run somewhat smaller than last season. The Chinese cotton crop is smaller but Russian cotton will show a considerable increase. The supply of Brazilian cotton is expected to be even larger than the record supply of last year.

World's Cotton Supply

The total world's supply was estimated late in October, to be about 39,900,000 bales. The world carry-over on August 1st, was about 13,600,000 bales, about 15 per cent smaller than the year earlier. World mill consumption of all cotton for the year ending July 1, 1935, was larger than for the previous season but total consumption of American cotton declined 2,200,000 bales from 1933-34 and was the smallest for 11 years, with the exception of 1930-31.

The important factors contributing to the decline in the consumption of American cotton last season were relative high prices of American cotton; increased supply of foreign cotton, and the 12-cent loan. Another factor was the shift in cotton consumption from Europe to the Orient and the accompanying tendency for Oriental cotton to replace American.

Affected By War

The United States Department of Agriculture outlook for 1936 predicts that the world consumption of American cotton in 1935-36 will be somewhat larger than last season, although consumption may be materially affected by further war developments.

Throughout 1934-35 domestic cotton prices have declined. In September, 1935, the average price of middling 7-8ths of an inch in the 10 markets was the lowest monthly average since December, 1935, and was 2.37 cents per pound lower than September, 1934. Despite declining prices however, the average for the season as a whole was 14 per cent higher than the previous season, and the highest since 1929-30. The weighted average price received by producers last season amounted to about 12.4 compared with 10.2 the previous season, and 5.7 in 1931-32.

Depends On AAA

The outlook for the supply of American cotton in 1936-37 will depend very largely upon the cotton adjustment program of the AAA. Details of this program are expected daily. Without restrictions, domestic cotton acreage in 1936 will undoubtedly show a marked increase. It is estimated that in 1935, there were 28,650,000 acres harvested. This was 1,700,000 acres more than in 1934, but 29 per cent below the average for the 10 years ended 1932. Although the area left for harvesting in 1935 was only 6 per cent larger than in 1934, the crop ran about 19 per cent larger owing to material increase in yield. The yield in 1935, was 192 pounds per acre as compared with 171 pounds in 1934.

The world supply of foreign grown cotton of about 19,450,000 bales is 27 per cent larger than the 10 year average ended 1932-33.

World Mill Consumption

It is estimated that the world mill consumption for the season ending July 31, 1935 was better than 23,700,000 bales, the largest since 1928-29 according to figures of the International Federation of Master Cotton Spinners and Manufacturers Associations. Most of the decline that occurred in the consumption of American cotton is accounted for by the decline of consumption by foreign countries as domestic consumption declined only 300,000 bales. A considerable part of the American loss occurred in Germany, where the quantity

of our cotton consumed was nearly 600,000 bales under last season. This was due to reciprocal trade arrangements with other countries, especially Brazil.

England used 150,000 bales of American cotton last year, approximately 400,000 bales less than in 1933-34. At the same time, Great Britain increased consumption of cotton from other countries about 350,000 bales. A considerable portion of this increase was in Brazilian cotton.

Oriental Factors Important

Changes in the world's cotton situation due to Oriental factors are clearly indicated in figures showing total consumption in Japan in 1934-35 increasing to a new high-level of approximately 3,500,000 bales, but American cotton consumption declined 100,000 bales. Japanese consumption of Indian cotton increased 450,000 bales.

In the year ending with July, 1935 Japan exported 2,700,000 square yards of cloth. This was a sharp increase over the preceding year. Japanese textiles are offered at a comparatively low price relative to textiles from other countries and the Japanese government is bending every effort to expand sales in foreign countries.

Cotton textile mills in China were more active last season than the previous year, but consumption of American cotton declined to 250,000 bales; the lowest since 1925-26.

Edible Oil Consumption

A bright spot in the cotton picture is the upward trend in consumption of edible fats and oils both in the United States and foreign countries. The relatively small supply of these products is favorable to maintaining prices of cottonseed oil at higher levels. Cottonseed produced in the United States in 1935-36 will reach about 5,000,000 tons, which is 19 per cent above the previous season. During the last 10 years, cottonseed oil has represented 53 per cent of the gross value of all cottonseed products. Production for the year 1935-36 is expected to be about 1,300,000,000 pounds (gms). The supply of lard, the principal competitor of cottonseed oil, is about 18 per cent smaller than a year ago, and 45 per cent under the average for the five year period ended 1933-34.

Conditions late in the fall indicated that supply of cottonseed cake was 22 per cent larger than a year earlier, and supply of competing seeds were also considerably larger.

South Carolina Cotton Crop Estimated At 750,000 Bales

South Carolina's estimated cotton crop of 750,000 bales is an increase of 69,000 over the 1934 crop while North Carolina's estimated crop of 600,000 bales is 29,000 bales less than that of last year.

This information is given in the report of the Crop Reporting Service which shows that up to November 1 North Carolina ginnings were 394,000 bales while ginnings in South Carolina had reached 615,000 bales.

The yield per acre for North Carolina is set at 289 pounds as compared with 316 pounds as compared with 250 last year.

"The 289 pounds per acre yield for North Carolina," said Frank Parker, State statistician, "is still 23 pounds above the ten year average and 27 pounds less than last year's almost record yield. This still leaves North Carolina as the leading per acre grower of short staple cotton, even to the point of surpassing Missouri."

Mr. Parker added that in addition to cotton, "tobacco, corn, hays, peanuts and small grains have made exceptionally good yields during the current year."

THE CAROLINA CO-OPERATOR

What Organized Farmers In North Carolina Are Doing - This Month

From nothing but a dingy two-room upstairs office to more than 18,000 members a total business of \$120,000,000 and one of the best cotton offices in the South—



That is a skeletonized record of the programs of the North Carolina Cotton Growers Cooperative Association during its first fourteen years of service to rural North Carolina, just ended. During the past 14 years the Cotton Association has handled more than 1,300,000 bales of cotton for 400,000 members, paying back to them for this cotton more than \$120,000,000. The Association has pioneered in cotton improvement work in this state, having had the cooperation along this line at all times of the State Experiment Station, and the extension service at State College. It is generally agreed that through its doublebarreled campaign of classing every bale of cotton according to government standard and distributing improved seed to farmers, the Cotton Association has played an important part in the improvement of cotton in North Carolina.

The Cotton Association is strictly a cooperative organization, owned and controlled by its members who elect directors annually. The present directors are: Dr. G. M. Pate, Rowland, president; L. Bruce Gunter, Raleigh, vice president; E. G. Griffin, Woodland; John T. Thorne, Farmville; B. C. Mayo, Tarboro; W. W. Andrews, Goldsboro; Edward Purdie, Dunn; H. Silverstein, Autryville; W. Henry Liles, Wadesboro; and E. J. Troutman, Statesville.

There is also an advisory committee composed of Dr. Clarence Poe, Dean I. O. Schaub, T. E. Browne, and Commissioner of Agriculture W. A. Graham.

The FCX sterling silver trophy has been awarded the Cary High School crop team as a result of its victory in a field crops contest held at State College.

The contest consisted of the identification and judging of crops and 14 teams consisting of three members each competed. The contest was held under the direction of W. H. Darst and J. B. Cotner, of the State College faculty.

Members of the winning Cary team were John Patrick, Clinton Franklin and Thomas Jones, with Carlton Campbell as alternate. The team was coached by R. S. Dunham, of the Cary High School faculty.

Patrick was the individual winner in the contest and also was first in the identification section. Edward Davis of Garner won individual honors in seed judging.

As this is written, E. S. Vanatta, State Master of the North Carolina Grange, is somewhere between here and California. Mr. Vanatta along with his family, left North Carolina for the West on October 24, bound for the National Grange Convention held in Sacramento, California, November 13 to 22. In a way, Mr. Vanatta is going back home. He is originally from El Cajon, California, where his parents now live. He and his wife will leave their children with his parents and go by rail from El Cajon to Sacramento.

Scribblings: Congratulations to Isham King Jr., of the Hester Grange in Granville County, for winning the State Grange essay contest on highway safety.... B. C. Mayo, farmer, cotton mill operator, and director of the Cotton Association, is also a breeder of fine race horses and his entries acquitted themselves nicely at the State Fair.... Most thinking farmers agree with the recent statement of Dr. Frank P. Graham that "Intelligent cooperation and education must go hand in hand".... Farmers more and more are singing the praise of the "Re-purchase Pool," announced this year by Cotton Association.... Clyde R. Jones, president of the Farmers Tobacco Manufacturing Association with headquarters in Danville, paid your narrator a visit the other day and left some more of his Dan River cigarettes—come again Mr. Jones.... The FCX-Cotton Association booth was a haven for many a tired, foot-sore visitor to the State Fair.... Hand-somest man on the Cotton Association board of directors is W. W. Andrews, of Goldsboro, while the same honor for the FCX should go to George Watts Hill, of Durham.... Layton Felt, of Bladenboro, is now using the scholarship he won in the Cotton Association essay contest—he's a student at King's Business College in Raleigh.

Stored Cotton Should Be Given Best Care Possible

Unless given the greatest of care cotton stored on the farm will be seriously damaged, according to P. H. Kime, agronomist at N. C. State College.

He pointed out that actual tests by the Department of Agriculture show that almost half of the bales of cotton stored flat on the ground in the open had to be picked off before the manufacturer could use it. The outside cotton was of very inferior quality and had but very little value. The average loss of cotton from the bales left flat on the ground in the open was 273 pounds a bale.

Cotton Tenancy Is Seen In Collapse

"The Collapse of Cotton Tenancy" is the title of a bound volume just issued by the University of North Carolina, at Chapel Hill.

It is a summary of field studies and statistical surveys made by corps of students, under the direction of Dr. Rupert B. Vance and his colleagues of the University of North Carolina Institute for Research in Social Sciences; and of Prof. Charles S. Johnston and his associates in the department of social science of Fisk University. The study extended over two years, from 1933 to 1935. The book is authored by Prof. Johnson, Edwin R. Embree and W. W. Alexander.

In the preface it is stated that "Farm tenancy is an age-old curse of agriculture in many parts of the world," and the treatise, which is not a complete report, but rather a summary of findings, goes into this and related subjects in detail. It is a work which every American should read, as it analyzes a vicious and enslaving system of agriculture, and points a way out.

TAX ON PAPER FABRIC TAPE

In accordance with findings and proclamation by Secretary Wallace, effective November 1, that the processing tax on cotton is causing processors of cotton disadvantages in competition between cotton fabric tape and reinforced paper tape, a compensatory tax became effective as of that date on the processing of reinforced paper fabric into reinforced paper tape. The rate of the tax is 21.7 cents per thousand 1-inch yards of paper tape, approximately the same rate per equivalent unit now in effect on the processing of cotton.

MURIATE AS SIDE DRESSING

Applied as a side-dressing, muriate of potash showed an increased yield of 330 pounds of cotton seed where 100 pounds were used and 220 pounds where 50 pounds were used by cotton farmers in Bertie County, N. C. A yield of 1,650 pounds of cotton seed was harvested by J. E. Hoggard on the field that had 100 pounds of muriate as against only 1,320 pounds harvested from the field without potash.

COTTON CROP NATIONAL ISSUE

That the south's cotton crop is national, and not sectional, and that any program affecting the crop has far-reaching consequences over the country, is shown by the fact that the livelihood of 14,500,000 people is furnished directly by this crop. Many more millions are affected by the merchandising of cotton products, financing of the cotton crop, and the selling of commodities the contention of the AAA that the objective of the cotton-adjustment program, is not to give growers an unfair monopoly, but to adjust production to demand for the best interests of all concerned.

S. C. STAPLE IS LONGER

While on the average, cotton staple in North Carolina is shorter this season, South Carolina's staple is longer than last season. The first seasonal report, released early in November shows that 85.3 per cent of the cotton represented was of 1 1/8 inch or longer staple, a gain of six per cent over last year for this length.