

Feeding Costs Hog Hogs Must Be Given Cut

Farmers Of This Section Are To Continue To Profit From Pork At A Profitable Cost Must Be Cut

PLANS PLAN FOR DOING THIS

Tell How To Substitute Feed Of Equal Value For Expensive Formulas

BY J. E. DOBSON, Brunswick County Farm Agent

The present low level of prices received for farm commodities, with the exception of tobacco and for livestock, with the exception of beef cattle, we are faced with the problem of a more economical production of both grain and livestock if we expect to continue making a living on the farm. This can be brought about by making use of our crop-land nearly 12 months in the year than we are now doing. Legumes not only add to the soil and furnish food for livestock during the winter and early spring months, but these legumes gather nitrogen in the soil for use of the following crops, thereby reducing to a considerable extent the need for expensive fertilizers. You probably know that rye is the most expensive fertilizer used in making a complete fertilizer formula.

Triple-A pays \$1.50 per unit of building practice, and seed-planting legumes is a soil building practice. There is, also, a soil building practice of one unit of \$1.50 for each 300 pounds of phosphoric acid used in winter legumes. Therefore, Brunswick County Agricultural Conservation Association has entered in with the state Association for 50,000 pounds of Austrian winter pea seed that any farmer of the Association who complies with the program can buy if he so desired and have charged to and from the rebate check he will receive for having joined with the 1939 program. I would recommend besides the Austrian winter peas, vetch and alfalfa as other winter le-

gumes especially suitable for growing in this section. The chief value of winter legumes lies in the fact that they gather nitrogen from the air; and when turned under supply this nitrogen and an enormous amount of organic matter to the soil. They may be turned under in time to plant corn, peanuts, soybeans, cowpeas, millets, sorghums, and sometimes cotton. Corn, the crop that most often follows winter legumes, will under average conditions yield 20 to 25 bushels extra per acre on account of the legume. The effect of the legume then continues two or three years longer.

Winter legumes may be sown between crop rows and covered with a cultivator, planted between crop rows with a corn planter or a one-horse drill, or may be drilled or broadcast on a prepared seed bed. Turn under the crop when it reaches a height of 12 inches or any time thereafter until it is in bloom. Before plowing the crop in, cut it up fine with a disc harrow. Turn the furrow slice on edge rather than all the way over. Always wait two weeks before planting another crop; otherwise, fermentation of the legume may cause a poor stand.

INOCULATION
To be effective, winter legumes must be inoculated with nitrogen-gathering bacteria. In the spring inoculated plants are easily recognized by their dark green color and vigorous growth, while plants without inoculation are pale green, yellow, or red, and never grow more than three or four inches high. Always inoculate seed before sowing on land not known to be inoculated.

There are three methods of inoculation:
1. Mix the seed for one acre with 300 pounds of soil from a well inoculated field, and drill it in or broadcast and cover at once. This is the only sure method for sandy soils.
2. Moisten seed with molasses and water. Mix with an equal volume of inoculated soil, sow, and cover at once.
3. Use commercial inoculation according to instructions on container.

Some farmers use a combination of the above methods. Applying stable manure to the field helps to make inoculation effective. Inoculation will live in the soil for four or five years without the legume.

FERTILIZERS

An application of 300 pounds 16% acid phosphate per acre will make a bigger cover crop. There should be a corresponding decrease in the fertilizer applied to the crop that follows the legume. This latter crop will make a better yield than if the fertilizer were applied directly to it. Austrian winter peas, a comparatively new one in North Carolina, is a variety of the Canada field pea. It is a good crop for soil improvement and in hay mixtures except on very sandy soils. It may be turned under about ten days earlier than hairy vetch, and is easier to inoculate. On the other hand, it winterkills more easily than vetch and is more subject to root-knot and bacterial blight. Whether to use hairy vetch or Austrian winter peas depends largely on which costs less per acre to seed.

This crop should be sown between September 1 and October 15, in the same way as vetch, at the rate of 30 pounds per acre. Hairy vetch is easy to grow on practically any soil that is inoculated, is hardy, and may be sown during September or October (the earlier the better). Sow 20 pounds of seed per acre, and cover 2 or 3 inches deep.

Hairy vetch contains more nitrogen per pound than any other legume grown in North Carolina, which makes it one of our best soil builders. Do not sow a mixture of vetch and rye for turning under, because the rye reaches the proper stage for turning at least a month before the vetch. Use oats or wheat if a mixture is wanted.

Hairy vetch makes good hay in combination with the small grains, increasing both the yield and the protein content of the hay. It is a profitable seed crop, when 5 pounds per acre are sown with wheat or oats. The vetch and grain are cut and threshed, after which the seed are separated with a spiral separator. Yields of 150 pounds of vetch seed per acre have been obtained in this way, with little or no decrease in the grain yield.

Hairy vetch grows much better in North Carolina than Hungarian, Monantha, common, Augusta, purple, and other varieties.

Crimson clover is adapted to medium to heavy soils, rather than to light soils. One reason for this is that the seed are small and should be covered less than an inch deep. On sandy soils this means that the seed may sprout and die before the roots get to a

good supply of moisture. Seed in the hull should be sown at the rate of 30 pounds per acre in August, and cleaned seed from September 1 to October 15 using 25 pounds per acre. Broadcast and cover very lightly, or drill in very shallow. Do not sow during a dry spell; it will pay to wait several weeks for a good rain. Crimson clover makes more tonnage than vetch or Austrian winter peas, and is also high in nitrogen. Seed may be harvested with a combine, or a lespezza plan equipped with a half inch mesh wire lid. The latter method produces only unhulled seed. Crimson clover is often used for hay. The hay is good if cut early, but dangerous to livestock if cut later than full bloom.

SMALL GRAINS
The small grains are planted in the fall and mature for hay in May and for grain in June. The seed bed is made by discing or plowing four inches deep, and harrowing. Deep plowing may cause the crop to freeze out. The seed should be sown with a grain drill, if possible; otherwise, broadcast and harrowed in.

The crop is ready for hay as soon as the grains reach the milk stage, and should be cut for grain when the heads and stalks have turned yellow and the grain is well dried out.

Wheat does well in all parts of the state. The best soils for it are sandy loams, loams and clay loams. It should never be planted on poorly drained land. Sow October 25 to November 15 in the coastal plain. A good rule is to sow immediately after the first killing frost.

Use 5 to 6 pecks of seed per acre, and treat with ceresan or copper carbonate to prevent smut. Good varieties are Red Hart and Purple Straw for the eastern half of the state. Wheat is cold-resistant when planted according to these directions.

Wheat makes good yields of high quality hay. Yields of 20 bushels or more of grain per acre

are not uncommon. Five bushels and three pecks will return a barrel of flour at the mill. The grain is also a good feed for livestock when the price is low enough.

Sow barley only on fertile, well drained soils that have been limed or are naturally not very acid. This crop is less hardy than wheat and should be sown 10 days earlier. Treat the seed with ceresan, which is a partial remedy for barley smut. Use 2 bushels per acre of North Carolina Beardard or Tennessee No. 6, which is beardless.

Barley is a good substitute for corn, having 80% of corn's feed value per bushel. Yields run from 25 to 50 bushels per acre under favorable conditions. The hay of the beardless variety is first-class in every way.

Oats will grow in all parts of the state, on almost any soil that will grow corn. This crop was formerly very subject to cold injury, but the new varieties, such as Fulgrain, 32-1, 33-47, and Lee are practically as hardy as wheat. All except the last are also smut-proof.

Oats should be sown in October, February, or March. The October sowing gives the best results. The rate should be 2 to 2½ bushels per acre.

Oat hay is excellent in quality and usually yields from 1 to 2 tons per acre. Grain yields run from 25 to 50 (or more) bushels per acre, but the grain is light in weight. The grain is valuable for feeding horses and mules, cattle, and poultry.

Rye will grow on practically all North Carolina soils, under all conditions. It will also stand more cold than other grain crops. Abuzzi is the best variety.

Rye is the best poor-land grain crop and yields from 5 to 15 bushels per acre. For grain sow October 15 to November 20, at the rate of 1½ bushels per acre. The quality and yield of hay are low. Rye is used more for a cover crop than for grain or hay. For

this purpose it is sown at the rate of 1 to 1½ bushels per acre from under whatever conditions the case demands. It may be broadcast between rows of corn, cotton, tobacco, etc., and cultivated in, planted between rows of other crops with a one-horse grain drill, sown on hard ground and disced in, or sown on a prepared seed bed.

HAY MIXTURE

Mixtures of small grains and winter legumes make bigger yields of hay than any single crop; and the hay is better balanced in nutrients and more palatable. For best results sow hay mixture in September on good land, and fertilize as recommended for small grains. The mixture is ready to cut when most of the grain is in the milk or dough stage, and the legumes in full bloom. Mixtures will stand a higher total rate of seeding than will a single crop, which partly accounts for the high yield of hay.

GRAZING MIXTURES

Mixtures of small grains and legumes made more and better grazing than does any crop planted alone. Some good ones are the following:
1. For fall and spring grazing: Rye 1 bu.; Oats 2 bu., or Barley, 1 bu. (if desired); Crimson clover 20 lbs. Sow early in September on good land. Graze in November and again in April and May.
2. For winter grazing:

Rye 1 bu.; Oats (cold proof) 2 bu., or wheat, 1 bu. (if desired); Austrian winter peas 20 lbs. Sow October 1 to 15 on good land. Graze December to April.
3. For hogging off as ripe grain:
Barley 1 bu.; Wheat ½ bu.; Oats 1 bu. Sow on good land in October. Hog off in June and July.

BORDER BELT TO CONTINUE GRADING AN DTYING WEED
(Continued from page one)

are concerned in taking the necessary action for the protection of the best interest of the farmer, and.

WHEREAS, the companies who buy South Carolina tobacco have through their representative, James Picklin, President of the United States Tobacco Association, and others, in no uncertain terms informed this group that the number of companies interested in the purchasing of South Carolina tobacco untied and ungraded will be considerably fewer than if the tobacco is graded and tied, and that the companies which remain to buy South Carolina tobacco untied and ungraded will be compelled to reduce the per cent that they usually buy because of their inability to handle as much untied and ungraded tobacco.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the warehousemen of the S. C. Tobacco Belt Association at their annual meeting, duly assembled, with the reliable information they have before them, recommend only tied and graded tobacco be offered in any of the warehouses in the S. C. Tobacco belt during the year 1939.

RESOLVED further, that any effort to change the present form of selling tobacco graded and tied in South Carolina will inure to the detriment and to the injury of the farmer by the reduction of the number of orders for the

purchase of South Carolina tobacco and the reduction in the percentage of the amount of purchases by leading companies since it is impossible for them to handle properly as much ungraded and untied tobacco as it is to handle graded and tied tobacco. That a copy of these resolutions be mailed to the companies for their endorsement, and to the leading newspapers of the State, Tobacco Journals, and county newspapers in S. C., which produce tobacco.

Tobacco Farmers In Columbus County Busy Preparing For Opening
(Continued from page 1)

barns have burned, in Columbus. A farm in the Cherry Grove section, near the home of Eddie Worley, was full of tobacco that apparently was ripening too early. In passing, we observed that the harvesters had skipped about four leaves on each stalk to catch up with the ripening. Those lower leaves were over-ripe, having turned orange yellow.

John J. Barnhardt is having a busy time right now, having interest in three tobacco farms at Hallsboro and one at Delco. At this writing, however he and his tenants seem to have the situation well in hand and it looks like they are going to be able to harvest their tobacco as quickly as it ripens.

A few days ago we visited the Cains farm in the Dove settlement of Bladen county and observed that the planters in that section were not having as much trouble about over-ripening tobacco as most of the farmers of Columbus county. Mr. Cains said that there was no evidence that they would be rushed in his section by over-ripening crops, and expressed his belief that the majority of the farmers in that section had ample barning space to take care of all the tobacco they had.

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