

**Clean-Up On Farm Will Save Lives**  
A place for everything and everything in its place is a safety rule, states Professor S. Weaver, head of the Department of Agriculture Engineering, State College, who emphasized this week the importance of a thorough clean-up on the farm to promote efficiency and safety.

Disorder is responsible for putting one out of every five victims in the hospital, according to a study conducted a few years ago by the National Safety Council, Professor Weaver says, emphasizing the importance of a thorough clean-up on the farm to promote efficiency and safety.

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## Leaf Growers Can Increase Their Profits

**Use Of Recommended Practices Will Make Greater Benefit To Farmer**

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Farm Management Extension Specialist

The best policy for most tobacco farms is to grow the full allotment of tobacco, strive to produce high quality tobacco, and use the rest of the land and labor for other enterprises. Most farmers plant the allotted acreage and, as a rule, produce high quality tobacco. The major problem deals with the use of land and labor not employed in tobacco production.

**Combination Is Needed**  
Tobacco occupies from ten to forty per cent of the cropland on most tobacco farms. Thus, a considerable portion of the cropland, and all of the pasture and woodland is available for other uses. Tobacco requires a great deal of labor, but the bulk of it is required during harvest season. A good combination of enterprises is one which uses all the farm and labor throughout the year. There are many such combinations.

On small farms which are not well suited to mechanization, cotton, poultry, and grain are good enterprises to combine with tobacco. On somewhat larger farms dairy cattle or hogs, and feed crops are good enterprises to add to tobacco. On farms with a large acreage and which are well suited to mechanization, there are many enterprises which may be combined with tobacco.

There is some land on most farms which is best suited to pasture and hay crops. Livestock should be added to properly utilize such land. Livestock enterprises generally require more labor during seasons when the crops require little or no labor. For these reasons some livestock should be included on most farms. A Nash County farmer has done a good job of combining tobacco and dairying on a medium size farm. He has about twenty milk cows, and nine acres of tobacco. He has most of the cows freshened in the fall after tobacco is harvested, and turns them dry just before tobacco harvest the next summer. He has considerable acreage of land which may best be used as pasture. This combination of enterprises is giving him a very good land use program and provides for full use of labor throughout the year. Such a system is resulting in a very nice income from an ordinary size farm.

Many farmers in the Piedmont planning that the largest single cause of injuries, other than the personal factor of poor judgment, is disorder.

The time spent now to eliminate farm danger spots through clean up efforts may result in the saving of many days lost through accidents during the rush season later on, Professor Weaver pointed out.

are combining milk cows and tobacco. On small farms there is a real opportunity for combination of poultry and tobacco. On the large farms, beef cattle is a good enterprise since tobacco takes little land and a great deal of labor.

Almost half the farmland in North Carolina is in woodland. The woodland should be considered as a crop and proper management used. A great deal of the surplus labor can be used profitably during the winter months in working in the woodland. Another Nash County farmer illustrated last winter the way woodland management fits into a balanced farming program. This farmer has a fairly small acreage of woodland. A woodland management plan was worked out by John Gray, Extension Forester, and H. E. Vernon, assistant county agent in Nash County. As soon as the crops were harvested the farm labor was used to cut the mature timber and the undesirable species. The lops were worked up by the farm labor. The entire farm labor force was employed from the time crops were harvested until spring when it was necessary to start the regular farm work. The farmer earned a nice profit, the farm labor was profitably employed, and the woodland was in better shape after the selective cutting than before.

There are similar opportunities available on many farms.

**Use Recommended Practices**  
Recommended practices should be used on all enterprises. Farmers usually follow recommended practices fairly closely on tobacco and cotton, the major cash crops, but not on other enterprises. The Experiment Station found in a recent study that cotton yields could be increased only 5 per cent if recommended practices were used on all phases of production. Corn yields, however, could be increased only 5 per cent if recommended practices were used on all phases of production. Corn yields, however, could be increased 100 per cent, wheat yields 76 per cent, and oat yields 82 per cent. If alfalfa hay is substituted for annual types of hay, the yield is increased sharply. The net income per acre, which is the important consideration, would be increased on corn from \$4 to \$30, on wheat from \$3 to \$22, and on oats from \$9 to \$28.

Rates of production for livestock may be increased sharply through use of recommended practices. If recommended practices are used on milk cows from which manufacturing milk is sold the net cash income can be increased from \$8 to \$53 per cow. The net income from 100 hens can be increased from \$115 to \$252. If grade A milk is sold the net income can be increased from \$8 to \$168 per cow. These figures should convince even the most skeptical person that it is good business to use recommended practices on all enterprises. See your county agent for the latest recommended practices.

**Increase Efficiency**  
Even though the prices farmers receive have been high and are still supported at a fairly high level, some farmers are losing money. The costs have been rising and will probably continue to rise. Every farmer should strive for greatest efficiency. Special emphasis should be placed on labor efficiency since labor is the largest item of cost in farm production. Labor efficiency can be increased through better work methods and the addition of machinery. Good planning will help increase labor efficiency. Unnecessary expenses should be cut. It is not good business to decrease the expenses for fertilizer, good feed, and similar expenses. It is good business to cut expenses for labor, repairs to machinery, equipment, and similar items. The use of recommended practices will help increase efficiency.

## Agriculture Act Continues High Support Prices

**1948 Law Gives New Method Of Figuring Parity Prices; Government May Help By Purchasing The Crops Or Making Loans**

WASHINGTON—Department of Agriculture officials say the new long-range farm law, approved in the closing hours of Congress, moves toward a philosophy of plenty. The law, known as the Agricultural Act of 1948, works this way:

It continues, with some changes, the present high wartime price supports through 1949. Then the long-range plan, with lower price support, goes into effect. After 1949 the more abundant the crop, the less support the farmer will receive. The government may provide this support by making loans, purchasing crops or other means.

Department spokesmen say the

purpose is to give some support to abundant crops, but not so much support that the man who has to buy food has to pay prices too high for his pocketbook. If prices start sliding downward because of an overabundance of crops, the law provides for a sharp drop in price support with the crops and demand.

The new law has a new method of figuring parity prices. The parity formula attempts to define the buying power of farm products during a period of fair farm profits. Then it attempts to insure the farmer the same buying power today. (As an instance, if two bushels of wheat, in a given period, bought a pair of shoes, today's price for wheat would be set so that two bushels would be sufficient to buy a pair of shoes, although in dollars the price is twice as high. More than 900 items the farmer buys are used in determining the price he should receive for products he sells.)

The new parity will be based on prices in the 1910-14 period. But in addition it will attempt to take into consideration changes that have taken place in farming practices and demand for farm products since then. For instance, it costs less to produce grain today than it did in 1910-14 because grain planting and harvesting machines have been invented, reducing farm labor. Also the demand for grain has changed. The new law averages prices for all farm commodities during a recent 10-year period. Then this average is used, at one stage of figuring, to establish a "modern" relationship among the crops and the profits they bring.

Farm officials say in general this will tend to reduce grain prices and increase prices for livestock and dairy products.

The law spells out the way the secretary of agriculture may support prices of the "basic" commodities—corn, wheat, cotton, peanuts, rice and tobacco. He may support other products at his discretion. The tobacco price will be set at 90 per cent of parity indefinitely. The other five basic commodities may be supported at from 60 to 90 per cent of parity. The level will be determined by the abundance of any commodity. The price may be set at 90 per cent of parity when the size of the crop is 70 per cent of normal but it may be reduced as low as 60 per cent of parity if the size of the crop reaches 130 per cent of normal. In the case of tobacco the price will be 90 per cent of parity.

## Elm Beginning To Vanish From American Scene

**Hardy Maple Family May Replace Favorite Native Tree In Many Sections**

Another famous "Vanishing American" is the elm, a tree that is doomed in many sections. Ravaged by Dutch elm disease, phloem necrosis and other troubles, this most popular of native trees is on its way out in widening areas.

Dwindling elms may be replaced by forward looking communities with trees of the maple family on both streets and private property, advises D. Q. Grove, chief field supervisor of Davey Tree Expert Co.

The big three in this category are the sugar, Norway and red maple. These are most desirable because they are reasonably free from serious diseases, long lived, beautiful in form, easily maintained, easily transplanted since they are shallow rooted, strong wooded and generally mature to a good height and spread.

Equally as important, they are adaptable to climatic conditions in practically every section of the United States. Only slightly less desirable are three other maples, the hedge, sycamore and Japanese maples.

As community replacement programs gain impetus, the hardy maple will become a more and more familiar part of the American scene along with the pin oak and other old favorites.

Whenever marketing quotas are in effect to control the size of the crop.

Wool prices will be supported at 90 per cent of parity until production reaches 380,000,000 (m) pounds a year. At present it is 300,000,000 (m). White potatoes will be supported at from 60 to 90 per cent of parity. Other farm products, including poultry, may be supported at from zero to 90 per cent of parity.

The secretary of agriculture may establish marketing restrictions on the basic commodities when supply is 115 per cent of normal or prices are below 70 per cent of parity and supply is less than normal. When the secretary establishes marketing quotas for a basic crop, farmers may vote upon it. If more than one-third of the votes are against the quotas, the support level will be reduced to 50 per cent of parity.

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