

Henderson Daily Dispatch

TOBACCO SECTION

HENDERSON, N. C., WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON, SEPTEMBER 11, 1946

COTTON SECTION

MARKET HERE EXPECTS BIGGEST SEASON

Cotton Market Is Important Factor In Henderson

Modern Gins Serve Trade Moving Here

Cotton Prices Are Highest For Years For Coming Season

While a great deal of emphasis is placed on tobacco in this section, because of its volume and higher return per acre, cotton is, nevertheless, a considerable factor in the agriculture of this section, both for the farmer and for the handler.

Less cotton is grown in Vance county today because tobacco, has taken the place of some of it, but it is less grown nearly everywhere in the South, and the 1946 crop is smaller than usual, for the country as a whole.

Local cotton men estimate this year's yield in Vance county will amount to between 2,500 and 3,000 bales, and perhaps ten to fifteen per cent more than in 1945. At current prices, a little better than 35 cents per pound for lint, cotton should sell for around \$175 per bale.

The Vance county area is served by two ginning concerns, the Rose Gin & Supply Company and the M. F. Legg Cotton Gin Company.

The Rose gin is located at the corner of Chestnut and West Montgomery streets. It will manage this year, as for a number of seasons, by J. B. and H. B. Brummitt.

The Legg gin is located at the corner of Orange and Walnut streets. Its management this year will be in the hands of H. J. and John L. Parks, who have served in that capacity for several seasons.

Both gins are equipped with modern and up-to-date machinery, capable of fast service for growers, and with a capacity of 60 to 75 bales daily when in full operation, on a single daytime shift.

Most cotton that is sold in Henderson is sold in the seed. That is, it is brought in as picked and sold before being ginned, unless the grower wishes to retain possession of the cotton and to store it for the benefit of future price advantages. When sold in the seed, cotton brings 12 to 14 cents per pound, on the basis of about 35 cents per pound for lint.

One of the biggest costs about raising cotton is the picking. While there is no indication at the present time as to what farmers will pay for picking this season, pay ranged from \$2.50 to \$3 per hundred pounds last year. An average day's work for a cotton picker is around 150 pounds, though some expert pickers are able to go as high as 250 pounds in a single day.

In spite of early unfavorable growing conditions, this year's cotton in Vance county is about normal in growth and fruitage, it is estimated. Early stands were far from ideal because of wet weather, but whether conditions have been more favorable during the summer, and tended to bring out the crop.

Cotton growers in this section have been comparatively free of boll weevil damage this season. The pest has not been serious and has been prevalent on a very small scale. Other sections, however, have reported a high rate of infestation.

There is at the present time a shortage of cotton seed oil and cotton seed meal, and cotton mill think growers have a big opportunity in this respect in helping the food supply, for there is considerable value in the processing of cotton seed.

The price of cotton as the new crop comes to market is the highest since just after the first world war, and farmers can grow the staple at a profit at present price levels.

Picking will begin soon on some farms and some cotton is expected to be offered for sale on the Henderson market by mid-September or soon thereafter. Local gins expect to begin operations about the first of October.

Edenton, Sept. 11.—J. D. Swindell of the Yeopim community of Chowan county is one farmer who has changed his varieties of soybeans because of tests conducted on his farm last year. Here are the yields that he obtained, according to County Agent C. W. Overman; Ogen, 35 bushels per acre; Arksoy, 31.6 bushels; and Woods Yellow, which had been planted, 12.2 bushels. This year he tested Arksoy, but did not obtain more than 50 per cent of a stand. No wonder he is quite a booster for Ogen and Arksoy varieties.

Tarboro, Sept. 11.—Farmers have long realized that rats destroy a relatively large amount of feed, about \$2 a rat, but it took a rat eradication campaign at Macesfield in Edgecombe county to show just how widespread the damage was. County Agent Joe C. Powell says that one farmer, who had some hay stored in a pack house, moved it the next day after putting out the rat bait and found 62 dead rats.

HENDERSON TOBACCO MARKET

Table with columns for MONTHS, DAYS, and prices for various tobacco grades (FIRST-A, FIRST-B, SECOND-A, SECOND-B) from September to December. Includes Warehouse Abbreviations.

SALES SCHEDULE 1946 SEASON

30 Million Pounds Goal Is Program

Stabilization Plan Will Be Launched; Same Sales Units

Despite delay of a full week in its opening date, and consequent loss of a considerable quantity of tobacco to markets in other belts, Henderson's 79-year-old tobacco market is ready for a bang-up opening next Monday, September 16, and will attempt to sell 30,000,000 pounds during the season, the highest amount in the history of the market.

Generally speaking, Vance county and adjacent counties in north central North Carolina and Virginia have produced the largest crop in history, and at current prices stand to get the highest financial return ever paid out.

Vance county alone, according to agricultural officials, will produce approximately 15,000,000 pounds of leaf, as compared with between 12,000,000 and 13,000,000 pounds produced last year. Henderson's tobacco market, certainly located and offering superior services to growers, is in a position to have its best season in history.

With two full sets of buyers scheduled to be on hand this season, Henderson's six well-lighted warehouses are capable of selling more than 600,000 pounds daily, providing the buying companies can handle such a tremendous volume in redrying and processing plants. The six warehouses have a total, combined floor space of more than 280,000 square feet.

Regulations set early this year for the operation of the various flue-cured tobacco markets, provide Henderson with 10 full hours of selling time daily, the second highest of any market in the Middle Belt. This selling time will allow four full sales daily on the Henderson market.

Plans have been made for weeks to handle capacity sales during the first few weeks of the season, according to Bloys W. Britt, supervisor of sales on the Henderson market. After the first few weeks of the season, sales are expected to settle down to normalcy, although they are expected to be heavy throughout the 14-week season. As in past years, the two full sets of buyers, representing all major buying companies and many small, independent ones, will remain on hand until the season officially closes, thus assuring growers of continued competitive bidding on their crop until the huge crop has been sold.

Under plans already developed, Henderson's market will be one of the most efficiently operated in the entire flue-cured area. Federal grading service will function again on the Henderson market, thus assuring growers of expert judging of the minimum worth of every pile offered for sale on the warehouse floors.

To assure prompt ending of sales and subsequent prompt start of the next sale, the Federal grading service also will serve in the matter of counting the number of piles allowed each sale, which is 2,000 piles for each set of buyers.

In addition to the Federal grading service, Henderson warehousemen plan to pay close attention to the operation of the Flue-Cured Stabilization Corporation's stabilizing program to be instituted on the Henderson market this year. Under this program, a "floor" price will be established on every grade, with the exception of those which are wet or badly damaged, and growers may place their lots of tobacco with the Stabilization Corporation if the lots do not bring the price specified as a floor. This program, according to Fred S. Royster, president of the Bright Belt Warehouse Association, guarantees parity prices for every lot of tobacco sold and should prove highly beneficial to growers.

As usual, all business and professional interests in Henderson will present a united front this year in an effort to boost sales on the city's tobacco market. Realizing the tremendous service the tobacco markets provide to farmers in Henderson's trading area, merchants and business men alike have gone to every means available to assure growers a welcome when they come to Henderson.

Recently, a \$4,650 fund was raised in the city to help promote Henderson as a tobacco market and as a trading center. Plans are to keep farmers fully informed as to price.

Morganton, Sept. 11.—Burke county farmers have found that pulling fodder and cutting tops of corn is poor practice. They say that for every dollar's worth of fodder saved, there is a corresponding loss in yield of the corn itself. County Agent R. L. Sloan says that where to do is to grow hay crops or to provide either permanent or temporary pasture, or both. Extra feed crops can be easily grown.

(Continued on Page Three)

State Fair Prize List Is \$20,000

Raleigh, Sept. 11.—A total of \$20,000 will be paid in premiums to winning exhibitors at the N. C. State Fair to be held here October 10-15.

Dr. J. S. Dorton, manager, declared in releasing the 192-page premium list recently.

He said that premiums in general this year would run approximately 20 per cent higher than in 1945, when the last fair was held. The outstanding new educational feature of the 1946 fair will be individual farm displays, and these exhibits will represent the individual farms and farm activities of the exhibitors, according to Dr. Dorton.

"This will give the farmer who follows a diversified agricultural program an opportunity to achieve recognition — even though he may not be so outstanding in any one branch of endeavor," said Dorton in explaining that home industry and farm management will receive 30 points; livestock products, 20; field crops, 20; fruits and vegetables, 15; and appearance of exhibit, 20 points.

There will be a total of 12 prizes for this exhibit, with first prize bringing \$700 and 12th place, \$50. Second prize will be worth \$500 and third prize, \$300.

"This display should be balanced, with not too much of any one thing being represented," said Dorton. H. L. Meacham, marketing specialist with the Extension Service, and W. G. Booker, Raleigh livestock specialist, will be in charge of this exhibit.

The following have been appointed general directors of exhibits for the fair: Fred E. Miller, director of the Test Farms division of the State Agriculture Department; I. O. Schaub, director of the N. C. State College Extension Service; J. H. Hilton, head of the Animal Husbandry Department, State College; J. Warren Smith, Assistant State director of Vocational Education; and Dr. L. D. Baver, director of the N. C. Experiment Station.

RAT DAMAGE HIGH. Tarboro, Sept. 11.—Farmers have long realized that rats destroy a relatively large amount of feed, about \$2 a rat, but it took a rat eradication campaign at Macesfield in Edgecombe county to show just how widespread the damage was.

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Trade Board Head



BROOKS TURNER

Net Income Of Farmers Still Rising

Washington, Sept. 11.—Net income of North Carolina farmers continued on the upgrade last year despite steadily rising production costs, the Agriculture Department reported today.

The average realized net income of farm operators went up to \$1,965 as compared with \$1,923 in 1944 and \$1,492 in 1943.

Total net income for the farms of the State, including government payments, was \$564,760,000 last year, which was well above the 1944 net total of \$547,032,000 and the 1943 net total of \$418,433,000.

In those three years, production costs maintained a steady rise from \$216,777,000 in 1943 to \$224,050,000 in 1944 to \$242,777,000 last year.

This year's gross cash receipts from the sale of crops and livestock have been running considerably lower than last year, however. The department reports that for the first five months of this year, the cash receipts of North Carolina farmers amounted to \$83,960,000, as compared with \$110,983,000 for the same five months of 1945.

Much Leaf Still Held In Reserve

Billion Pounds In Storage Is Slight Increase In Year

Raleigh, Sept. 11.—Flue-cured stocks of tobacco on hand in the nation total 1,147,000,000 pounds—an increase of 21,000,000 pounds over a year ago, according to W. P. Hedrick, tobacco marketing specialist with the North Carolina department of agriculture.

He pointed out, however, that stocks of flue-cured tobacco earmarked for export are at least 70,000,000 pounds less than at this time in 1945, and consequently holdings available for home consumption indicate a gain of much more than the 21,000,000 pounds increase shown by total stocks.

Basing his statement on the latest information compiled by the production and marketing administration, he said exports of flue-cured between July 1 last year and last July 1 are expected to be at about the same level as during the corresponding period a year earlier, when exports amounted to approximately 454,000,000 pounds on a farm sales-weight basis.

Stocks of flue-cured decreased 340,000,000 pounds from April 1 to July 1 this year.

"Disappearance of flue-cured tobacco during the fiscal year from July 1, 1945, to July 1, 1946, moved at an unusually high level, totaling 1,152,700,000 pounds, said Hedrick.

With regard to burley tobacco, he asserted dealers and manufacturers have around 982,000,000 pounds on hand, an increase of 161,000,000 from July 1 last year, and the highest level on record, surpassing the previous high midsummer figure set in 1941 by 88,000,000 pounds. Between April and July this year burley stocks decreased 118,000,000 pounds as against 104,000,000 for this period in 1945.

The farm-sales weight of stocks of all types of leaf tobacco on hand in this country and Puerto Rico total 2,850,000,000 pounds. Stocks amounted to 2,766,000,000 a year ago.

Holdings of the Commodity Credit corporation amount to only around 10,400,000 pounds as compared with 21,800,000 pounds a year ago. Practically all of these stocks consist of flue-cured varieties.

Sales Supervisor



BLOYS W. BRITT

Navy Has Room For Engineers

Washington.—The Navy disclosed that it still has job openings ranging from switchboard operators to mechanical engineers and architects in the Marianas Islands—where housing is \$8 a month and meals cost 70 cents a day.

The positions are in connection with the building and maintenance program of the Navy Bureau of Yards and Docks on Guam, Saipan, Tinian, and adjoining Pacific Islands.

Installation of sewerage, roadways, and communication systems is proceeding on Guam and Wake Island under a \$21,000,000 joint contract awarded the Maxon Construction Company, Inc. of Dayton, Ohio, the Brew and Root Construction Company of Houston, Texas, and the Pacific Bridge Company of San Francisco.

The Navy said it has unfilled vacancies for architectural, civil and electrical engineers, and engineering aids and draftsmen. The pay ranges from \$2,292 for engineering draftsmen to \$5,186 to \$7,481 a year for engineers.

Needed also are stenographers and telephone technicians, skilled at maintenance.

The openings are available only to single persons because of a lack of suitable quarters for couples. Most housing is in Quonset huts.

Crawling, we read, is good exercise. It may be swell for the constitution but it sure can wreck a nice pants pressing job.

Producers Advised To Save Money

Buying U. S. Bonds Is Suggested For Conserving Funds

Farmers in the Henderson area are to be urged to invest their tobacco profits in U. S. Savings Bonds in line with a statewide drive to encourage thrift. The appeal will be made during the autumn selling season.

Posters are to be placed in local banks and tobacco warehouses, if policy followed elsewhere is put into effect here, and farmers will be reminded of the importance of putting aside excess earnings for leaner years.

Allison James, State director of the U. S. Savings Bonds division, and Ted Merrill, assistant director, have been active in eastern marketing centers placing the savings bonds posters and conferring with local bankers.

In urging farmers to invest as much as possible of their tobacco dollars in U. S. Savings Bonds this season, James stated that, "farmers in 1946 are in the best financial shape they have ever been. Their mortgage indebtedness is at the lowest point since 1915. Through their splendid support of the War Bond drives they have salted away millions of dollars in War Bonds and have continued purchases of U. S. Savings Bonds."

"To add to this picture in North Carolina, tobacco crops are bringing good prices and it is predicted that the cash income for this state from our largest farm crop will exceed the \$56 million mark of last year."

James stated further that "the farmers should build up and keep up financial reserves against such setbacks as, floods, drought, loss of earnings due to sickness and accidents, and especially against a possible fall in farm prices."

FOUR PRACTICE. Morganton, Sept. 11.—Burke county farmers have found that pulling fodder and cutting tops of corn is poor practice. They say that for every dollar's worth of fodder saved, there is a corresponding loss in yield of the corn itself.

County Agent R. L. Sloan says that where to do is to grow hay crops or to provide either permanent or temporary pasture, or both. Extra feed crops can be easily grown.