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SURRY COUNTY FARM AND POULTRY NEWS

By E. E. White,

Surry County Farm Demonstration Agent

Now is a good time to prepare to get out a large acreage of soy beans. This crop was grown on many farms last year where none was grown before. All of the farmers I have talked with are well pleased with the results obtained the first time. This is a crop that we can expand indefinitely without fear of overproduction for the entire plant can be used for feed and soil building. Our soils are not rich but we can make them so if we will grow more of this crop. We never can get too rich soil so we can plant as many beans as we want to for soil building and feed.

Four varieties are recommended by State College for the Piedmont. Two of the varieties have been given a thorough trial in Surry County, Mammoth Yellow and the Laredo. While these are both excellent beans the Laredo promises to be more popular than the Mammoth Yellow in the future. You will, however, not make a mistake if you plant either one. The other two varieties recommended are Haberlandt and the Virginia. The following is a description of each recommended variety.

Haberlandt No. 38 or Herman-Larger than the original Haberlandt but very much like it, yields about one third more seed and is two weeks later; seed about the size of the Haberlandt—144,000 seed in one bushel.

Laredo-Semi-erect—spreading, viny, slender, seed smaller than Ootootan which it outyields. Hay cures easily. Matures in 140 days; 466,500 seed in one bushel.

Mammoth Yellow—Large, upright plants, three to five feet tall. Adapted to seed production and pasturage. One of the best yielders of seed and hay, but the hay is somewhat coarse. Matures in 145 days; 128,700 seed in one bushel.

Virginia—Growth upright, three to five feet in height. Yields good quality hay and good yield of seed. Makes probably the best quality of soybean hay. Seed do not shatter badly. Matures in 125 days; 207,000 seed in bushel.

Extract from a circular letter prepared by E. C. Blair, Extension Agronomist and sent out by this office says—"Last year the Laredo soybean proved very successful in Surry County; making 4,200 pounds of hay per acre on unlimed land, and 5,000 pounds were a ton of lime per acre was used.

This variety stands ahead of all others for the Piedmont section when both hay and seed yield are considered. Besides making an abundant yield of hay, it makes hay of fine quality, most of the stems being so small that half a bushel of them will sow an acre. The Laredo also matures early, so that it can easily be followed by small grain.

I will be glad to help you secure seed of this variety. Let me know your needs at once, allowing a half bushel of seed per acre. Planted in rows and cultivated one bushel will plant 5 acres."

From the above you see that Mr. Blair is very enthusiastic about this particular variety in this county. I have had only two complaints during our test of last year but very many farmers have said that this was the only bean for this county. While all beans have their good points yet we think that the Laredo is a very fine bean. This year seed is very cheap and the price ranges from \$2.00 to \$4.00 per bushel. Since there are about four times as many beans in one bushel as in the Mammoth Yellow you see the seeding per acre is very low and this would be a good year to seed heavily.

In the Office here at Dobson there is to be seen fifteen varieties of soybeans on exhibition. These varieties were planted on the same day on identical ground, fertilized the same way and pulled at the same time. If you will come to the office you can examine the entire different varieties and decide for yourself the particular one that you will like. Many farmers have examined this exhibit and have expressed a desire to increase their acreage.

Seed can be secured through most dealers in the county.

Meetings to discuss the growing of legumes for hay and soil improvement will be held at the following places on Monday, May 16, 10:30 A. M.—I. A. Park's farm, near Dobson beyond County Home, 3:30 P. M.—Alex Chatham's farm, eight miles north of Elkin near State Road.

You will be able to see excellent demonstrations of legumes actually growing on both farms. At the morning meeting we will also visit several other demonstrations near Dobson.

Mr. E. C. Blair, Extension Agronomist, North Carolina State College,

Raleigh will be present to lead the discussion and answer questions.

Be sure to come. Bring other with you.

Farmers will be very busy when these meetings are held but when you are showing actual demonstrations on growing crops you are through necessity forced to have the meetings when the growing crops are in a condition to illustrate some good farm practice. It is through these meetings that you can get good ideas of what can be done on your own soil for these are being conducted on the soils of this county.

We often hear farmers say that such and such a result cannot be obtained on his farm although if he would take the trouble to visit a demonstration a short distance away he would see something that would be of a great value to him. Through these visits he will get some valuable ideas.

Lightning Rods Are Dangerous Warns Mr. Wade.

Raleigh, April 2.—"Lightning rods are positively dangerous," said Stacey W. Wade, insurance commissioner, "unless they are properly made and properly installed."

"Under the law, the insurance department is given power to regulate the sale and erection of lightning rods and only approved rods may be sold legally in North Carolina, and only licensed agents may sell or erect them. Under rules adopted by the insurance department, only bona-fide residents of the state, who have been residents for not less than two years, may be licensed.

"Every citizen of the state who is approached by a lightning rod salesman should find out if the salesman holds a license and if he does not, report the matter to the authorities. The law requires every agent to have his license on his person and to exhibit it upon demand," said Mr. Wade.

The ads. are newsy. Read them.

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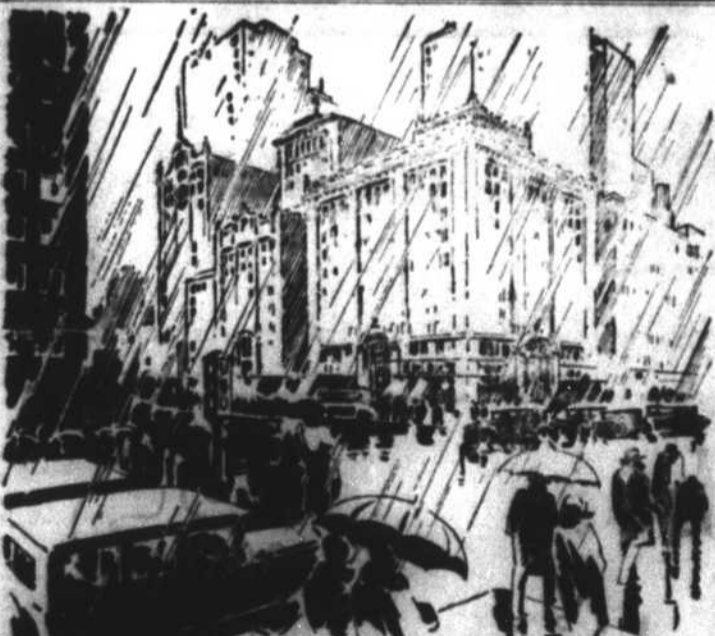
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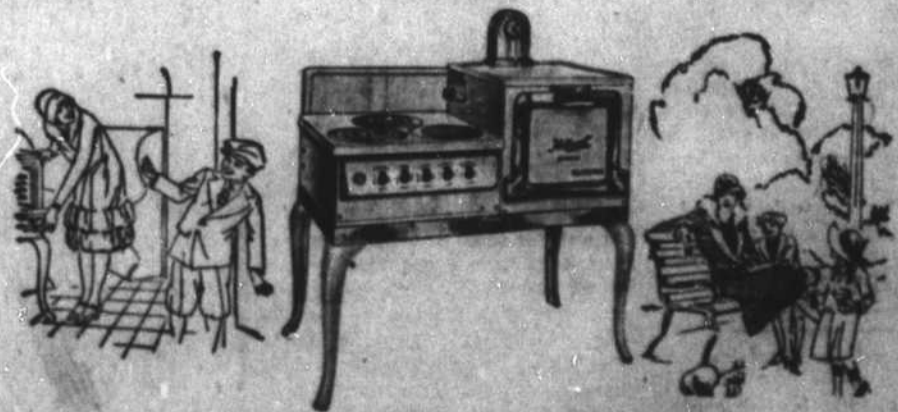
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