

Nation's 1945 Weed Production High

Great Increase In State's Tobacco Crop

This year's North Carolina tobacco crop is expected to be 10.7 per cent larger than the 1945 crop of 794,500,000 pounds the Federal-State Crop Reporting service says in its first official forecast for this season.

Production of flue-cured tobacco promises to go to a record-breaking 879,600,000 lbs.—58,000,000 pounds more than in 1939, when there were no quotas on tobacco production.

This year's flue-cured tobacco acreage is placed at 807,000 acres, 86,000 acres more than in 1945 and 32 per cent more than the 10 year—1935-44—average acreage devoted to flue-cured tobacco in this state.

The acreage of tobacco planted in the Old and Middle belts is estimated at 320,000 acres, compared to 283,000 acres harvested last year. Based on July 1 conditions of the crop, the yield per acre is estimated to be 1,050 pounds as against 1,080 pounds in 1945, making the final total production equal 336,000,000 pounds or 10 per cent more than was harvested in 1945.

In the Eastern Carolina belt, the acreage is placed at 392,000 acres as against 353,000 in 1945. The indicated yield is estimated at 1,125 pounds or almost the same as last year. This makes this year's indicated production total 441,000,000 pounds, 11.5 per cent more than was harvested in the preceding year and 48 per cent more than the 10-year—1935-44—acreage.

Border Belt tobacco is up to 95,000 acres or 10,000 acres more than last year, while the yield per acre now promises to be 1,080 pounds compared to 1,100 pounds in 1945. The 10-year average yield was 1,008 pounds. Unless conditions change materially, the total tobacco of this type should total 102,600 pounds, or 10 per cent more than in 1945.

Type 31, or Burley tobacco acreage, is estimated at 12,500, 11 per cent less than the 14,000 acres harvested last year.

Yield prospects are considerably less than in 1945, being estimated at 1,330 pounds, compared to a record yield of 1,450 pounds last year.

For the entire burley belt, including Kentucky, the indicated production is placed at 543,285,000 pounds, 6 per cent less than in 1945. The acreage planted is down 4 per cent from last year.

STATE IS FIRST IN FIVE CROPS

How does North Carolina rank with the other states in the production of various crops?

Frank Parker, who as chief statistician with the State Department of Agriculture keeps an eye on such matters, gives Tarheelia credit for 5 "firsts." Every good North Carolinian knows that we grow more tobacco than any other state, but the other four crops in which we lead the field may offer a surprise to many. They are: lespedeza for seed; late spring snapbeans; late summer snapbeans; and early summer green peppers.

North Carolina ranks in second place in the production of early commercial Irish potatoes. Other "seconds": spring beets; late summer and late fall cabbage.

This state is third from the top in the production of cucumbers for pickling and in the growing of late spring cabbage soybeans to be cut for hay and sweet potatoes.

Fourth place: summer lima beans, peanuts, burley tobacco.

North Carolina is in eighth place with regard to cotton, sixth place in lespedeza hay, tenth with early summer tomatoes, fourteenth in corn, seventh in the manufacture of molasses, 20th with wheat, tenth in peaches, pears, and grapes, sixth with pecans, 27th in pro-

Carolina Warehouses Located In Center Of Lumberton Tobaccoland

Managing The Plant Bed During Summer

By R. R. BENNETT
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Permanent plant bed sites for tobacco can be maintained, if growers will follow practices to keep down the growth of weeds and grass during the summer months and follow recommended practices in disease control. The use of chemicals to kill out the seed that are left will enable growers to stop the back breaking job of weeding beds in the spring.

The matter of summer management of the plant bed is now presented in a series of questions and answers to bring out the principal points to be followed.

Q. What is meant by summer management of tobacco plant beds?

A. Well, you see it's like this, it has been the practice for growers to let the plant bed site grow up in whatever weeds and grass are prevalent, but the back-breaking labor required to weed plant beds the next spring has interested growers in weed control practices. Now it stands to reason that proper management of the plant bed site, during the summer, can reduce the growth of weeds and grass and thereby eliminate many grass and weed seed which would otherwise give trouble the following spring.

Q. Just what practices can a farmer follow that will reduce the growth of weeds and the presence of grass seed?

A. Most of the weed and grass trouble is experienced by those growers who sow their beds on the same site or on cultivated land year after year. On such land, we propose that the growers should disc up the old site and the proposed site for next season, and sow a heavy application of crotalaria, velvet beans, soybeans, or cowpeas.

Q. Is there any special rate of sowing or preparation of the soil necessary?

A. The preparation of the soil is very simple. Thoroughly disc the plant bed site and run a smoothing harrow over it.

Q. How is the best way to sow these legumes on the plant bed site?

A. Growers who have a grain drill will find this the best method of sowing the seed. If the grain drills are not available, the seed may be broadcast by hand and covered with a drag harrow.

Q. Should these legumes be sown at the same rate on plant beds as for general field use?

A. Generally speaking heavier rates per acre than normal would be desirable on plant beds. The reason I say this is that a heavy seeding will shade the ground, thus preventing the growth of weeds and grass. Then too, the heavier the rate of seeding, the smaller the stem of the legume and the quicker the legume will decay when disced under in August.

Q. How about some definite recommendations on the rate of seeding?

A. Crotalaria should have at least 25 lbs. of seed per acre. Velvet beans 1 to 2 bushels, soybeans 2 to 4 bushels, and cowpeas 1 to 2 bushels.

Q. Are these legumes adapted for all parts of the state?

A. Yes, but growers who are having difficulty from nematode or root knot should use crotalaria since crotalaria is one of the most resistant crops to root knot. Soybeans and cowpeas are quit susceptible. However, if Uramon and Cyanamid are used to sterilize the soil, any one of these four leg-

umes can be used, since Uramon will kill the soil borne tobacco diseases.

Two Carolina warehouses, located in the center of the Lumberton tobacco district, offer farmers a sale every day in one of the warehouses and the operators announce that they have everything in shape for the opening of the Border Belt market Thursday, August 1.

Carolina No. 1 is located between 1st and 2nd streets and Carolina No. 2 is just two blocks away, located between 2nd and 3rd streets.

The operators of the Carolina houses are Marvin A. Roycroft, LeRoy Townsend, Johnny Johnson and Adrian McRae. They all have hundreds of friends among the tobacco growers of this area and are known for their prompt and friendly service, bending every effort to accommodate the farmer.

The Carolina warehouses offer a large amount of floor space in well lighted, well ventilated, easily accessible locations.

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Q. Now that we have the next year's plant bed site planted to a legume, what is the next step?

A. In August, while the legume is still tender and green it should be disced into the soil and allowed to decay. This



Smart and lovely in her two-piece flowered cotton playsuit, Joan Winfield, Warner Bros. starlet who is currently appearing in "A Stolen Life," rests up from a strenuous day's activities on a bed of flowers which almost match up with those on her midriff cotton. The cotton outfit is one of the season's most fetching play creations, the National Cotton Council reports.

should be done about four weeks before time to sterilize the soil by the use of chemicals. These legumes will enrich the soil and improve the physical condition, thereby reducing the fertilizer requirement and making the plants easier to pull up without bruising them.

LUSCIOUS IN COTTON

Combined Sales At Britts Work For Best Interests Of Grower

Lee Woody and Ed DeJarnette, widely known warehouse operators, are combining their sales of Britts and Farmers warehouses this year in order to better watch the interests of the tobacco grower and will hold all their sales at Britts warehouse.

Britts warehouse is located on East 1st street in the heart of Lumberton's tobacco district and is conveniently located so that the farmer will encounter no trouble in getting to the warehouse and unloading his crop.

The operators of Britts promise that there will be a good sale every day at their warehouse and they announce that they will specialize in the same capable, courteous service that has been their pride in past years.

They declared: "Bring us your first load and you'll want to come back and sell it all with us."

Words of the Wise

Can't somebody give us a list of things that everybody thinks and nobody says, and another list of things that everybody says and nobody thinks?

—(Holmes)

Acreage Higher, Yields Lower Than In 1944

Total production of tobacco in the United States in 1945 is estimated at 2,042 million lbs., a new high record.

This total compared with the 1944 crops of 1,956 million lbs.

The acreage planted to tobacco was larger in most states than during the previous year while average yields per acre were generally below the previous year.

The few states where acreages were smaller than in 1944 were those where plantings were reduced by unusual difficulties at planting and setting time.

Approximately 57 per cent of the production was flue-cured and 31 per cent was light air-cured. Fire-cured dark air-cured and all cigar classes accounted for only about 12 per cent. This distribution of production among the tobacco classes will provide relatively more tobacco for cigarette makers than for other manufacturers.

The 1945 production of flue-cured tobacco was 1,175 million pounds, compared with 1,090 million in 1944. The 1945 crop was slightly larger than the record 1939 crop of 1,171 million pounds.

Blue mold in plant beds and cold, rainy weather in the early season held the acreage increase to only 6 per cent above 1944.

Warm, dry weather in June was conducive to development of a good root system and also provided opportunity for cultivation. Early September was warm and ideal for priming and curing.

The burley crop met some serious obstacles in the early season. Blue mold was severe in many plant beds, and cold weather in the spring retarded progress. Dry weather followed and became acute in Kentucky, but rain fell in time to bring about substantial recovery in most localities. The present estimated production—603 million pounds—exceeds 1944's record output by about 2 per cent.

Reports Show Trends In N. C. Pig Production

Report from thousands of North Carolina farmers collected cooperatively by the local rural mail carriers for Crop Reporting service of the Federal and State department of agriculture, indicated that the combined spring and fall pig crops for the state totaled 1,142,000 head for 1945.

This is about 336,000 head smaller than the 1944 crop of 1,478,000 head and 151,000 head smaller than the 10-year average of 1,293,000 head.

The 1945 fall pig crop was estimated at 544,000 or 13 per cent smaller than the 1944 fall crop of 624,000 head. Reports from breeders indicated that 85,000 sows farrowed during June 1 to December 1, 1945. This is 14 per cent smaller than the 99,000 sows farrowed in the fall of 1944.

Farmers' reports on breeding intentions for the spring of 1946 indicated that 105,000 sows would farrow during the 6-month period ending June 1, 1946. This is about 10,000 head or 11 per cent larger than the 95,000 sows farrowing during the spring of 1945 but 9,000 head or 8 per cent less than the 10-year average spring farrowings of 114,000.

If breeding intentions are carried out and the number of pigs per litter should be the same as the 10-year average, the 1946 spring crop in North Carolina would total about 630,000 head or 32,000 head more than the 598,000 produced in 1945 but about 56,000 head smaller than the average spring pig crop during the last 10 years.

Words of the Wise

Distinction is the consequence, never the object, of a great mind.

—(Washington Allston)

Hedgpeths Offer Continuation Of Friendly, Efficient Service

Poultry Brings N. C. Farmers Good Income

The production of poultry has rapidly become one of North Carolina's most important farm enterprises.

A few years ago farmers in this state derived only small part of their cash income from poultry and prior to 1933 the cash income from poultry amounted to approximately one fifth of the sum received in 1943 or 1944.

Perhaps the war, with a greater demand for poultry by the government, has been one of the main factors in bringing about this increase.

The amount of cash income derived from broiler production alone has gradually increased each year from \$492,000 in 1935 to approximately \$11,000,000 in 1945, which is the highest on record.

The cash income derived from chickens in 1938 amounted to \$10,381,000, as compared with \$43,934,000 received in 1943 and \$42,624,000 received in 1944.

This amount has surpassed the cash income derived from hogs, sheep, cattle, or any other livestock enterprise on North Carolina farms today.

For the year 1945, the output of chicks by commercial hatcheries was 37 per cent greater than the 1944 output and 7 per

Hedgpeth's warehouses will offer farmers of the Border Belt two excellent places to sell their tobacco and the operators promise that they will give growers the same efficient, courteous service they have in years past.

Hedgpeth's No. 1 is located on First street in Lumberton and No. 2 is on the Fayetteville highway just inside the city limits.

Both houses offer a large amount of well lighted floor space and everything is in order for the opening of the market August 1.

Operators are Rom A. Hedgpeth, Johnny Roycroft, Leroy Rollins and Horace Hicks. They have served hundreds of tobacco growers in the past and are prepared to serve even more this year.

Hedgpeth's No. 2 will have a first sale on opening day.

Odd Fact

When a former Army pilot, flying a plane without radio or lights, was unable to land on an airfield in the vicinity of his home, he buzzed his own house in the hope that his wife would recognize that he was in trouble and guess his plight. She did, and notified the field to light up for his landing.

cent above 1943, which was the record year of production prior to 1945. At present the demand is fairly high for chicks for general farm flock replacement and bookings indicate a good demand for broiler chicks.

WELCOME BACK, TOBACCO GROWERS, TO

BRITTS

Warehouse—E. 1st. St.—Lumberton, N. C.

YOU CAN GET A GOOD SALE EVERY DAY

This year as last year, we are combining the sales of Britts and Farmers Warehouses, using all our sales time at Britts, thus enabling us to continue to watch your interests better.

It will be a pleasure for us to give you the same capable, courteous service that has been our pride in past years. Bring your tobacco to Britts and be sure that you are marketing your crop for the highest price possible.

Bring Us Your First Load—You'll Want To

Come Back And Sell It All With Us

LEE

Ed

Woody DeJarnette

AT BRITTS IN LUMBERTON