

FARM REVIEW and FORECAST

Agencies Cooperate For Better Service

RALEIGH — A joint memorandum of cooperation designed to improve effectiveness of programs and better serve the public was signed today by James T. Johnson, State Director of Farmers Home Administration, and Jesse L. Hicks, State Conservationist of the Soil Conservation Service.

The memorandum between the two U. S. Department of Agriculture agencies spells out areas of mutual interest and provides for joint effort on both the local and state level.

"Actually, we are reaffirming our support of the close working relationship that FHA and SCS have enjoyed for years," the two agency heads said in a joint statement, "but we believe this formal step will lend impetus to the recognized program."

FHA programs cover rural housing, farming operations, and community services, including water and sewer systems and solid waste disposal. SCS covers soil and water conservation problems, soil surveys and maps, land

use, and a wide variety of conservation activities. SCS also has leadership for resource conservation and development projects, a multi-level operation, and watershed projects.

Areas of cooperation will be provision of soils data by the Soil Conservation Service, to pick best sites for Farmers Home Administration housing, joint efforts to work with changes in land use, work with regional development commissions and multi-county planning and development groups.

Each agency will advise people of services available from the cooperating agency; for example, FHA will advise loan applicants of the opportunity and advantage of becoming a cooperator with the local soil and water conservation district, and completing a conservation plan on his land.

SCS will inform individuals and groups of landowners involved in SCS conservation programs of the availability of

credit counseling from FHA and the possibility of obtaining financial assistance.

Both the Soil Conservation Service and Farmers Home Administration have been active in assisting citizens and governmental units to develop sanitary landfills, with technical advice on location and construction coming from SCS and financial assistance from FHA.

"We believe this is going to result in a new high mark in joint efforts between our agencies, since we have identified so many areas of interest," said James T. Johnson of FHA. "I fully agree," said Jesse Hicks of SCS, "and the main beneficiary will be the people, including groups of people and governmental units, that we serve."

Regular meetings are planned to continue implementation of the joint memorandum of cooperation. This memorandum replaces a previous similar agreement signed in 1966.

Weekly Peanut Report

VIRGINIA-NORTH CAROLINA SECTION — The weather was mostly fair and cold, although warmer temperatures were reported Wednesday of this week. Offerings were limited on extra large, light on number ones and moderate on others. Trading was light the market was about steady. Bales and quotations prompt and February-April delivery mostly prompt delivery cleaned Virginia jumbo 25-25½ cents; Fancy 23-23½ cents, occasionally 23¾ cents, shelled extra large very few 31½-32 cents, mostly 31½ cents, Medium 29 cents, occasionally 29¼ cents, Number one scarce 25½ cents, number two 22½-23½ cents, mostly 22¾-23 cents.

Bookmobile Schedule

Monday, January 22 —
Route No. 3 — Seaboard, 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.;
Margarettsville, 11:15 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.; G. L. Davis' Store, 11:45 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.; Conway Downtown, 1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.; Milwaukee Community Building, 2:45 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Tuesday, January 23 —
Route No. 4 — Woodland, 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.; Friendly Market, 11:15 a.m. - 12 noon; Woodridge Mobile Home Court, 1:15 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.; Seavern, 2:15 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.; Pendleton, 3:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.



WHA HOPPEN? is the question to be read in the eyes of these cattle at a feeding station near the community of Eagleton as they tried to figure out what all that white stuff was that was falling in their feeding area.

Severn Boy Scouts Taught First Aid Course

SEVERN — Continued instruction and demonstration of first aid techniques featured the regular meeting of the Severn Boy Scout Troop No. 78 at the Severn Fire House last Wednesday night. The instruction and demonstrations were put on by Assistant Scoutmaster Gene Martin and Committeeman Leslie Britt.

No date has yet been set for the camp-out, which was scheduled for January 5 and 6 and then cancelled because of weather conditions.

Nine members of the troop were present. They were: Henry Hodge, Jr., Bruce

Barkley, Kevin Britt, E. J. Byrd, Harvey Byrd Jr., William Byrd, Tommy Grant, Ronnie Summers and Ronnie Woodard. Keith Britt, a preage youth, also was present for the meeting.

Any boy from age 10½ to 18 years, who is interested in the scouts, should contact Scoutmaster M. E. Lassiter at 585-7021 or Assistant Scoutmaster Gene Martin at 585-3882 for full information on the troop and assistance in becoming a member.

The next meeting of the troop will be at the Severn Fire House on Wednesday, January 24.

AHOSKIE — Roanoke-Chowan Technical Institute is sponsoring a first aid course for all law enforcement and jail attendant personnel in Hertford, Bertie, Northampton and Gates Counties.

The course will be taught by George H. Brannon, Greenville, at the new Ahoskie Rescue Squad building located on the corner of First and Pembroke Sts., January 17 and 18. Instruction will begin at 6 p.m. and last until 10 p.m.

Free materials are available at the Ahoskie Police Department and should be picked up prior to class meeting time.

Zambia Loan Opposed By N.C. Solons

WASHINGTON, D. C. — The North Carolina Congressional Delegation has expressed deep concern over a proposed loan by the International Development Association to Zambia for the purpose of increasing flue-cured tobacco exports from that country.

In a letter to the President, the North Carolina Delegation asked that the United States representatives to the I.D.A. oppose this loan when it comes up for final consideration and oppose similar loans in the future.

The text of the letter is as follows:

"We, the undersigned members of the North Carolina Congressional Delegation, are deeply concerned over the proposed \$12 million loan by the International Development Association to Zambia for the purpose of increasing flue-cured tobacco exports from that country.

"We do not feel that the resources of the United States, which are involved in I.D.A. Loans, should be used to bring about new competition for the vitally important American tobacco export trade.

"American tobacco exports are important in terms of the foreign exchange generated and, of course, in terms of the thousands of North Carolina farm families who depend on tobacco production for their livelihoods.

"Development of underdeveloped nations, with their own resources and with loans from international funds, is commendable. However, the proposed loan does not, in our opinion, fall in that category and is, in fact, contrary to the national interest.

"In January of 1971, Congressman L. H. Fountain received assurances from Mr. William E. Timmons that more loans of this nature were not likely. Mr. Timmons' letter stated: 'We do not anticipate more I.D.A. credit proposals of this type.'

"Consequently, we are considerably surprised and disappointed to learn of the proposed new loan to another nation.

"We would like to respectfully request that the United States representatives to the International Development Association oppose this loan when it comes up for final consideration, and that our representatives oppose similar loans in the future by any agency of the United States or by any financial organization to which our country belongs."

The letter was signed by all members of the North Carolina Congressional Delegation: Sen. Sam J. Ervin, Jr., Sen. Jesse A. Helms, Rep. L. H. Fountain, Rep. Roy A. Taylor, Rep. David N. Henderson, Rep. James T. Broyhill, Rep. Walter B. Jones, Rep. Wilmer D. Mizell, Rep. L. Richardson Preyer, Rep. Earl Ruth, Rep. Ike F. Andrews, Rep. James G. Martin, Rep. Charles Rose.

REAP Fund Cut Off Is Topic Of Discussion

Clyde Jenkins, of Potocasi took the oath of office for another three-year term as supervisor of the Northampton Soil and Water Conservation District Monday night, January 15. The oath was administered by Magistrate N. B. Hughes.

Other members of the board of supervisors present at the meeting were Charlie W. Taylor, Edward M. Lanier, and Thomas W. Grant. Harold G. Taylor, the other member, was unable to attend.

Following the swearing-in ceremony, officers were elected for 1973. The existing slate of officers of officers was re-elected. They are: Charlie W. Taylor, Chairman; Clyde Jenkins, Vice Chairman; Edward M. Lanier, Secretary-Treasurer.

Plans were made for

attending the State meeting of Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisors in Raleigh next week. There was also a discussion of proposed resolutions for the state meeting.

Other items under discussion included the recent cut off of REAP funds for cost-sharing conservation practices and the proposed moratorium on channelization. Members of the board pointed out that enlargement and maintenance of channels is necessary in many areas to prevent flooding and for adequate drainage of farm lands.

Applications for assistance in conservation planning were approved for Hollowell Farms, W. W. Boone, Mrs. Louise Simmons, Carl W. Harris, and Reid V. Harris, II.

Tobacco Production Meet Is Rescheduled

JACKSON — The county-wide tobacco production meeting, which was canceled on January 9 because of the storm, has been planned for tomorrow at the county agents' office in Jackson at 10 a.m.

Ben Kittrell, tobacco specialist, and Furney Todd, tobacco plant pathologist, both of North Carolina State University, will be present to discuss the 1973 program.

Kittrell will discuss the 10 per cent increase in production quota and what changes growers should make to adjust for the increase. The very latest tobacco research information will also be

covered at the meeting. There will be discussion on such topics as varieties, new plant bed covers, chemical weed control, tank mixtures of chemicals, fertilization, chemical sucker control, disease control and mechanized tobacco harvesting.

1973 tobacco information publications will be passed out at the meeting. These publications are very helpful to growers, as they contain the latest research data on recommended chemicals and production practices.

All tobacco growers in the area are cordially invited to attend.

Pest Control Law Violation Appealed

JACKSON — William Moore, Jr. of Washington, has been convicted here in district court on two counts of violating North Carolina Structural Pest Control Laws. The defendant was charged with treating the homes of Mrs. D. G. Hoggard and John Paul Wheeler of Rich Square for termites without being licensed for extermination work by the Structural Pest Control Division of the North Carolina Department of Agriculture. Moore was paid

\$35 by Mrs. Hoggard and \$50 by Wheeler.

Judge Joseph D. Blythe sentenced Moore to six months in prison, suspended for three years on condition he pay a \$100 fine in each case and court costs.

Moore appealed the decision to Northampton County Superior Court. His bail was set at \$500.

Prosecution of the cases resulted from an investigation by the NCDA's Office of Consumer Services.

Accent on AGRICULTURE

BY B. C. MANGUM
N. C. Farm Bureau Federation

A Look At The Crystal Ball
RALEIGH — With 1972 now ended, the thoughts of experts on farm matters begin to turn to the new year.

During 1972, agriculture experienced many changes. Higher tobacco prices, demand for soybeans, the increase in grain sales and cattle and hog prices were some of the major factors on the plus side for farmers.

But bad weather which hampered the harvesting of many crops and prices equal to or below previous years offset some of the good points of the year. Ever-increasing production costs took its toll.

Now, what can farmers expect for the next 12 months?

U. S. Department of Agriculture economists say the outlook for the first six months at least is for a continuation of the record-high level 1972 has produced. Cattle prices will go higher, they say, in early 1973. Hog prices will stay high for the first half of the year. However, with a report that farmers are farrowing seven percent more sows in the December-February period, marketings in the summer could pick up and lower hog prices somewhat. USDA economists even say such a trend toward increased production could put prices under considerable pressure late next year.

In feed grains and wheat, it is expected that the Russians will buy \$1.2 billion in fiscal 1973 compared with only \$150 million in the previous year. Most of this will be in wheat (\$660 million) with feed grains making up close to \$400 million. Soybean purchases will come to about \$135 million. This buying reflects the Soviet crop failures and, also, the effort to improve the diets of their people.

Here at home, the consumer will continue record purchases of food in supermarkets and restaurants. Total food spending is rising about 5½ percent this year, and may top \$124 billion. The economy is expected to continue to expand and this means personal incomes will increase. This will bring on a further rise in domestic demand for food products.

It all looks good on paper. But with all the uncertainties associated with farming, plus skyrocketing production costs, agriculture's crystal ball continues to remain unclear.

Mrs. E. L. Ricks, Route 2.

The other five attaining outstanding scholarship honors, their studies and their parents names and addresses are: James H. Lee, agricultural economics, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Lee, Route 1, Garysburg; Benjamin L. Mann, agricultural institute, son of Mr. and Mrs. B. I. Mann, Pendleton; John Price, III, liberal arts, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Price, Route 1, Jackson; Walter C. Taylor, vocational industrial education, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. G. Taylor, Seaboard; and Kenneth R. Wooten, politics, son of Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Wooten, Rich Square.



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- Plan your peanut program in units of 75 acres if possible to maximize efficiency of machinery, labor and management.
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- Test soil for lime and fertilizer needs.
- Apply needed lime and fertilizer early. (Peanuts respond to residual in the soil.)
- Use a chisel plow to break land. This piece of equipment will eliminate traffic pans if operated at the proper depth.
- Bed land soon after chiseling. This will increase the capillary action in the soil, help to eliminate wind erosion, and cause beds to warm up sooner in the Spring of the year.
- Make seed arrangements now. Plant only tested seed, properly treated with one of the recommended fungicides.
- Plant at least three different varieties with different maturing dates in order to hedge against weather conditions.

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