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Keep In Touch With Your Experiment Station.

IN THIS issue will be found two short articles on cotton anthracnose, a disease which has been unusually prevalent over much of the South this year. Almost every year, however, we get inquiries from farmers as to what causes their cotton bolls to rot and how they can prevent it. The same thing is true of many other plant diseases, and many insect pests.

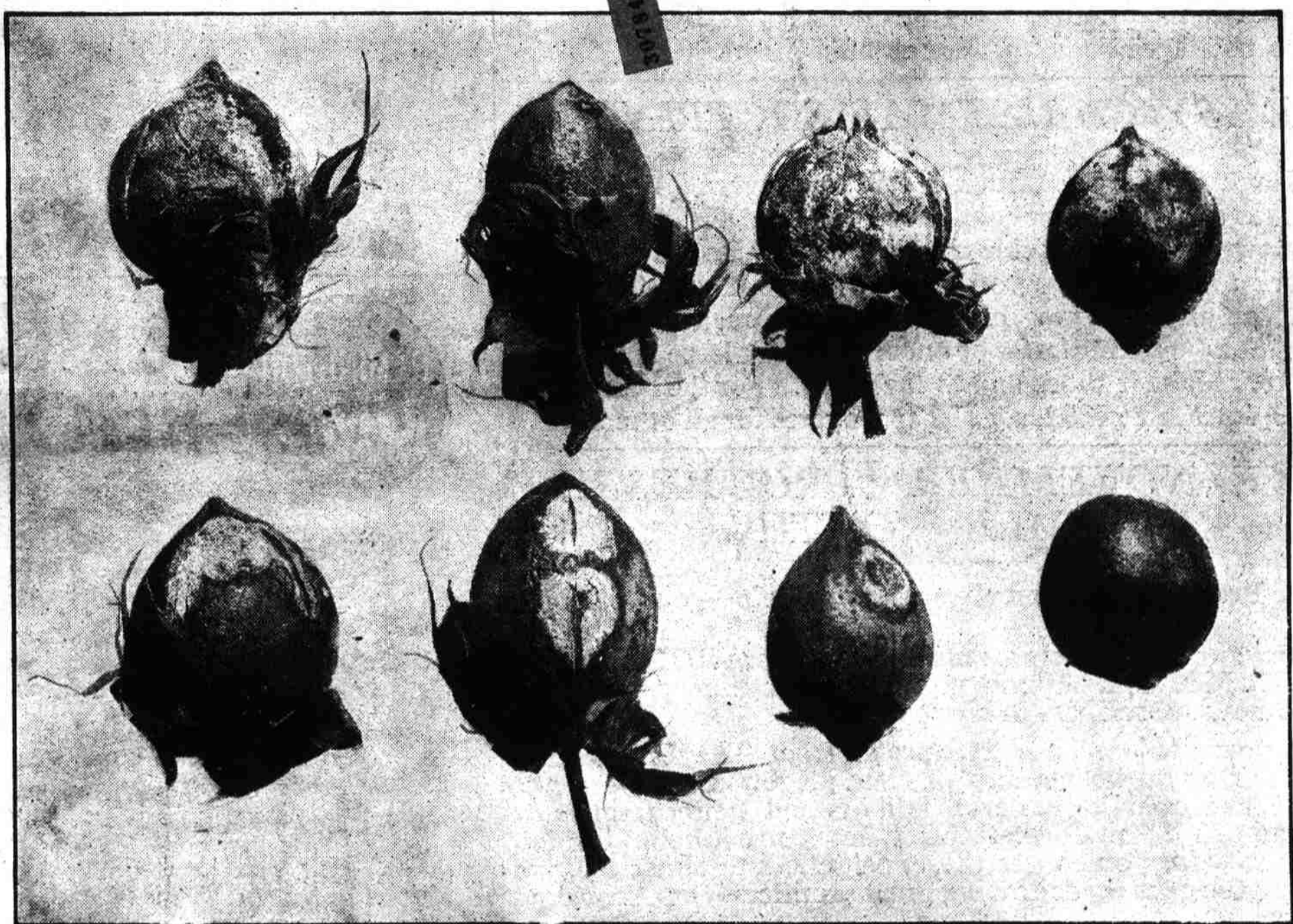
The loss to the farmer from these diseases and insect enemies is enormous. Various estimates are made as to its extent, but really no one can do more than guess at it. Often, too, the farmer does not even know, when a new disease attacks his crop, or a new insect pest appears, what the troublesome visitor is. Most of us who are "just plain farmers" are not at all well-informed as to fungi, or bacteria or all the multitude of flying, creeping and crawling things that we have to contend with. Yet it is important that we know about them. Often the success of our crops, and the reward of our year's labor depend upon our knowing how to fight these tiny—often invisible—foes.

The question, then, is: where are we to get this information—when a new disease appears, or a new insect begins to do damage, how are we to find out what it is and how to fight it?

There is, as a rule, just one place to which we can turn with reasonable certainty, and that is our State Experiment Station. At the Experiment Station there are men engaged in studying these things—men who have made it their life work to find out about the fungi and bacteria that cause the various diseases farmers see their plants suffering with, or who devote their time to learning how insects live and how they can be killed. These men cannot, of course, tell the farmer how to treat every plant disease or how to kill every "bug" that annoys him, for they, too, have much to learn along this line, but they can usually give all the information that is to be had.

There are other places, of course, where information can be had on these subjects. Most farmers know something of fighting some of the more destructive insects, and of controlling some of the more common plant diseases. There are various books and bulletins which will help; some State Departments of Agriculture can give prompt and effective aid; The Progressive Farmer is always ready to do what it can, tho it usually refers such inquiries to some Experiment Station specialist; but as a general rule the best thing the farmer can do in a case of this kind is to apply directly to his Experiment Station for information and assistance.

Every farmer should keep in close touch with the Experiment Station in his State, anyway. The services of these institutions are not valuable only when disease breaks out in the crops or insects eat them. Tho it would pay the farmer to keep in touch with his Station for this part of its work alone, this is far from being the most important part of that work.



COTTON BOLLS AFFECTED WITH ANTHRACNOSE

Write the Director of your Experiment Station today and ask him to put you on his regular mailing list. Here are the names and addresses for the different States in our territory:

- Virginia—S. W. Fletcher, Blacksburg.
- Virginia Truck—T. C. Johnson, Norfolk.
- North Carolina—C. B. Williams, West Raleigh.
- North Carolina, State Department—B. W. Kilgore, Raleigh.
- South Carolina—J. N. Harper, Clemson College.
- Georgia—Marvin V. Calvin, Experiment.
- Florida—P. H. Rolfs, Gainesville.
- Tennessee—H. A. Morgan, Knoxville.

FEATURES OF THIS ISSUE.

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|--|-------|
| BIG TOBACCO PRICES THIS YEAR—Why They Are So Good . . . | 23 |
| GET A PIG—The Progressive Farmer's New Campaign in Which You Should Join | 12 |
| LIVESTOCK AT THE NORTH CAROLINA STATE FAIR | 15 |
| SIX PER CENT COTTON TARE—A Letter and an Editorial | 5, 13 |
| THE COUNTRY CHURCH AND COUNTRY LIFE—How the Church Can Help in Many Ways | 8 |
| THE SETTLERS WE NEED AND HOW TO GET THEM—Two Suggestive Letters | 5 |
| WHEN BUYING PURE-BRED STOCK—How to Get Your Money's Worth | 14 |
| WHY A CHILD SHOULD CHEW HIS FOOD | 10 |