

Farmers of Wake Market Hogs Cooperatively

By John C. Anderson

County Agent John C. Anderson announces that arrangements have been completed for farmers of Johnson, Wake, other surrounding counties to market their hogs cooperatively.

Good pens, scales, and other equipment have been installed at Four Oaks in Johnston county, and car lot shipments have been made from this point every week for the past 2 months. Farmers who have surplus hogs that have been properly fattened for market can take their hogs to this point and receive cash on the day of shipment. The hogs are properly weighed and graded by the County Agent or his authorized agent. They are then shipped to the market that offers the best bid but are subject to inspection and re-grading at the time they are killed. In other words, the farmer receives 80 per cent of the value of his hogs, in cash, on the date they are shipped and the remaining 20 per cent as soon as they have been butchered and inspected by the packer or buyers. The only cost to the farmer for this service is about 10c per head for weighing and grading the hogs.

Farmers who have been cooperating in these shipments report that they have been very much pleased with the system and are satisfied that they received the full

market price for their hogs at the time of shipment.

J. R. Callis, a Wake county farmer, Willow Springs, N. C., recently shipped 25 hogs that he had fattened on his farm this year. These hogs averaged 225 pounds each and were fed from a self-feeder on corn grown in 1935. 19 of these hogs brought the top market price of 9 3-4c per pound at the time of shipment, says Mr. Anderson, and the others ranged from 8 1-4c to 9 1-2c per pound. Mr. Callis is primarily a tobacco grower, but has produced a large surplus of corn during the past 2 years, and says that he has found it profitable to market his corn through hogs. Other farmers of this county would do well to follow the example of Mr. Callis. He states that he still has enough corn on hand to last him for 2 years, and is planning to fatten more hogs for the market in the future.

The market for hogs is usually at its peak during the late spring months and extra money is always needed on the farm at this time.

Because of the limited number of fat hogs in this section and the slackening up in the market on such hogs during the summer season, sales will not be made as often during the summer season as they were during the winter. The following shipping dates will be kept in mind, however, as they have been set as shipping dates from Four Oaks during the summer:—May 3rd, May 24th, June 14th, July 12th, August 2nd, August 16th, September 6th and September 20th.

Farmers who will have hogs to ship during the next 3 months should keep these dates in mind and get in touch with their county agents about 3 or 4 days before the time of shipment, so arrangements can be made for them. Beginning in September cooperative shipments will be made from Four Oaks every 2 weeks or more often if necessary.

Many farmers who cooperate in the Soil Conservation Program may produce a surplus of corn this year and will not doubt find it profitable to market the corn through hogs, properly fattened for market. The county agent will be glad to assist any farmer interested in the growing or fattening of hogs for market continued Mr. Anderson.

"We have blue prints and plans for self feeders, individual hog

houses, and other information that we shall be glad to furnish growers who are interested."

A thrifty pig demonstration has been started on the County Home Farm in Cherokee County with two registered purebred sows

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