

# Hybrid Corn Replacing Old Varieties In South

Hybrid corn is replacing old corn varieties just as automobiles replaced the horse and buggy according to Dr. Merle T. Jenkins, of the U. S. department of agriculture. He estimates the acreage of hybrid corn in the U. S. jumped 40,000 acres in 1933 to 3,500,000 in 1937. He expects 15,000,000 acres will be planted this year including half of the acreage in the leading corn belt states. Authorities predict that within a few years practically all seed corn planted will be hybrid.

This increase is due to farmers finding that hybrid corn is resistant to drought, storms, disease, and other adversities, and yields 10 to 30 per cent more than best local varieties. They are more than repaid for the extra cost of buying hybrid seed each year. The roots of hybrid corn are so deep that a husky farmer was offered \$5 if he could pull up a single stalk, was unable to do so.

The old corn breeding method of selecting seed in field or crib year after year improved corn yields very little. The new method started in 1908 of crossing self-fertilized or inbred lines has given far greater yields for two reasons. The crossed seed has hybrid vigor for the same reason a mule has more strength and endurance than its parents. By selecting the proper inbred lines the hybrid has much deeper roots, stronger stalks, and larger, sounder ears than the original variety.

An inbred line is produced by placing pollen from the tassel of a plant on the ear silks of the same plant, repeating this operation every year. Usually over 1,000 lines must be developed and tested to get the four desirable lines used to produce a commercial double cross hybrid. This requires six to eight years. To produce hybrid seed two of the lines must be crossed together in one field to form a single cross and the other two crossed in a different field. The following year the two single crosses are combined to form a double cross. This is done by planting the strains to be crossed in alternate rows, usually in ratio of one row of pollen producing strain to three rows of female or seed producing strain. All tassels in the three seed rows are pulled out before they shed any pollen. The ears from the detasseled plants furnish the hybrid seed. Dr. Jenkins estimates that 150 bushels of inbred seed after the two generations of crossing would produce enough hybrid seed to plant the entire corn acreage in Iowa, more than 9,000,000 acres.

Hybrid corn should have a better future in the South than in the corn belt, as there are so many adversities here such as insect pests, intense heat, droughts and hurricanes, which can be largely overcome by hybrid corn. Although the South has not been as active as the corn belt in producing corn hybrids, most of the Southern states experiment stations and several southern commercial seed firms now have extensive hybrid corn breeding programs. Corn hybrids like the old varieties are only adapted to sections with climatic and other conditions similar to those in which they were developed. Repeated tests in the South have shown that the corn belt hybrids do not have the necessary shuck protection from weevils, ear worms and blackbirds.

One Southern seed firm, T. W. Woods & Sons, with breeding projects near Richmond, Va., and Wilmington, N. C., was the first commercial firm to start breeding hybrid corn adapted to the South. They employ two experienced hybrid corn breeders. After 11 years of breeding they now have hybrids that have made highest yields in every southeastern state.

One of their hybrids is the only yellow corn to outyield all white varieties in tests in North Carolina, Ga., and Alabama. It has made the highest yield of any yellow corn in experiment station tests in every southeastern state from Virginia to Florida. In one state experiment station test their hybrid early yellow dent made the highest yield, 119.4 bushels per acre, while regular varieties yielded only 70 to 85 bushels.

Hybrid corn was one of the chief topics discussed at the N. C. corn improvement association meeting at Lexington, N. C., February 8 and 9.

## George Washington Was First Master Farmer

As George Washington's birthday approaches, he will be remembered as a great general, a great President, and a great statesman. But how do you suppose the Father of our Country thought of himself? The Progressive Farmer makes this rather novel suggestion:

"Few of us realize that first of all Washington himself liked to be known as a farmer—or how 150 years ago he was preaching the necessity for more grass and less row crops; regular rotation, stopping soil erosion, better plants and animals! It was Washington who in 1785 brought mules to America. Just a few weeks ago President Roosevelt described him as America's first Master Farmer. Let's take a few glimpses into his farming experiences. In looking for a farm manager he wrote, 'The man must be, above all, Midas-like; one who can convert everything he touches into manure as the first transmutation toward gold; in a word, one who can bring worn-out and gullied lands into good tilth in the shortest time.'

"Again we find him saying, 'My countrymen are too much used to corn blades and corn shucks and have too little knowledge of the profit of grass lands.' 'In the eighteenth century there was no such thing as plows as we have them today and Washington tried his own hand at designing. Eventually in his records he wrote, 'Spent the greatest part of the day in making a new plow of my own invention. . . . Set my plow to work and found she answered very well.'

"Most of all, however, I would like to have you remember of Washington the farmer what one man has said of him: 'He was not content to cultivate his land; he strove to cultivate himself.'

## Approved Practices Assure Good Flocks

It's astonishing to see how much many poultrymen expect of their chicks and mother nature, declares T. T. Brown, extension poultry specialist at State college.

On one farm one may find from 500 to 1,000 or more chicks crowded into a brooder house no larger than 12 by 14 feet. On the farm next door one will probably find a large brood of chicks in a house with practically no ventilation and a suffocating temperature.

Yet these poultrymen wonder why their chicks do not live and thrive, and sometimes throw up their hands in disgust at a business in which there is no money.

Growers who are getting satisfactory results with their present methods of raising chicks should not change, Brown said.

Many farmers fail because they try to follow the advice of too many persons. For instance, one poultryman may be attempting to follow the recommendations of several feed salesmen, the county agent, and the vocational teacher, as well as the advice offered by neighbors.

Although there is no one set way to raise chicks, the farmer should select one system and stick to that at all times. The chances of his success, if the system is good, will be greatly enhanced.

The extension poultrymen at State college have worked out a system which many farmers are using with a great deal of success. Brown said. Each new recommendation in the business of poultry raising which they make is first tested thoroughly through experimental work and through practical field observations.

The farm agent in each of North Carolina's 100 counties is acquainted with these recommendations and growers interested in poultry production may secure advice from this source.

## CARD OF THANKS

We wish to express our sincere thanks and appreciation for the many acts of kindness and sympathy shown us during the long sickness and death of our dear husband and father. We wish to thank our friends and relatives for the beautiful floral offerings.

MRS. T. B. HIGDON AND FAMILY.

adv.—1tp

# Ferry Boat Passengers Cool Their Heels



An ice jam which formed in the Hudson river off Newburgh, N. Y., trapped the ferryboat Dutchess with 20 passengers aboard for five hours. The ferryboat was bound from Beacon, N. Y., and only a change of tide allowed it to work free and dock.

## Broadway

By EFFIE WILSON

Miss Ella Wilson, of Clear Creek, spent last week-end with her cousins, Blanche and Edna Wilson.

Jerry Wilson spent the week-end with his uncle, Andy Wilson.

Blanche Wilson was visiting her sister, Stella, in Franklin over the week-end.

Frank Cabe made a business trip to Highlands Friday.

We are having fine farming weather now. Some of the farmers are getting their plowing done.

There is a lot of sickness and bad colds in this community.

Furman Vinson and his father spent a part of last week in this section.

## CARD OF THANKS

To our many friends who were such a help and comfort to us during the sickness and death of our husband and father, we want to thank each and every one of you. Also thank you for the lovely floral offerings.

MRS. FRANK SETSER AND CHILDREN.

## LEGAL ADVERTISING

### NOTICE OF SUMMONS

North Carolina, Macon County, In The Superior Court Macon County

vs.

C. C. West; Eva Mumpower; May Catway; F. T. Smith; Chas. Morgan; O. V. Hall; Macon County Supply Co.; Sluder-Garrett Furniture Co.; Bank of Franklin; John E. Rickman; Harley K. Cabe, trustee; John Awtrey (Assignee of Clayton Chevrolet Co.); J. B. Pendergrass & Co., successor to J. B. Pendergrass.

The Defendants, Chas. Morgan, Eva Mumpower, John Awtrey, Assignee of Clayton Chevrolet Co., will take notice that an action entitled as above, has been commenced in the Superior Court of Macon County, North Carolina, for the purpose of foreclosing a tax lien on property in Macon County, North Carolina, and in which the defendants have an interest, and are proper parties thereto.

It is further ordered by the court that the defendants, Chas. Morgan, Eva Mumpower, John Awtrey, Assignee of Clayton Chevrolet Co., are required to appear at the office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Macon County, North Carolina, at his office in Franklin, on the 5th day of April, 1938, and answer or demur to the complaint of the plaintiff, or the relief demanded in said complaint will be granted.

This the 14th day of February, 1938.

HARLEY R. CABE, Clerk Superior Court.

F17-4tc-M10

## NOTICE OF SUMMONS

North Carolina, Macon County, In The Superior Court Macon County,

vs.

John H. Sanders and wife, Mrs. John H. Sanders.

The Defendants, John H. Sanders and wife, Mrs. John H. Sanders, will take notice that an action entitled as above, has been commenced in the Superior Court of Macon County, North Carolina, for the purpose of foreclosing a tax lien on property in Macon County, North Carolina, and in which the defendants have an interest, and are proper parties thereto.

## LEGAL ADVERTISING

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It is further ordered by the court that the defendants, John H. Sanders and wife, Mrs. John H. Sanders, are required to appear at the office of the Clerk of the Superior

## LEGAL ADVERTISING

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F17-4tc-M10

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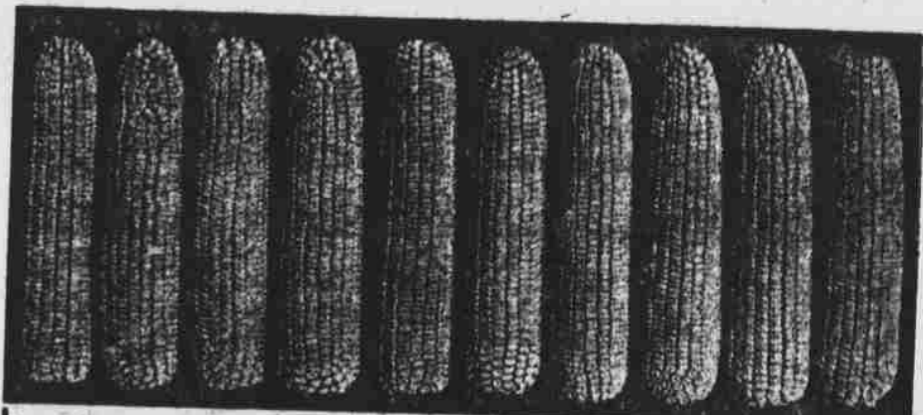
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